



**WEST END WATCH**

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Yacoub Yousef Behbehani

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## US copter crewmen rescue 4 Indians

**ABOARD THE** USS MCCLUSKY, Jan 6, (Reuters): Crewmen of a US Navy supply helicopter rescued four Indian fishermen who said they had spent three days floating in a large fishbox in the Gulf after their boat broke up and sank.

News of the Sunday rescue was delayed until a pool of reporters embarked to cover a US Navy convoy of tankers through the Gulf yesterday morning. Among the escorting warships was this frigate.

Navy officials said the SH-3 helicopter was flying cargo and a passenger to the US command ship Lassalle on Sunday when the crew spotted four men in the six-foot-square (two metres) box frantically waving pieces of white cloth at them.

According to the crew's official report of the rescue, the helicopter approached the men warily, then closed in when it became apparent they were in trouble.

A helicopter crewman, Paul Jahnke, doctored a wet suit while another crewman directed the pilot into a hover about 15 feet (five metres) above the castaways.

Jahnke jumped into the 65-degree (Fahrenheit) water and helped the fishermen into the rescue hoist.

"It was cold but it was worth it," said Jahnke, who spent about 40 minutes in the water.

The fishermen, who identified themselves as Indian nationals working a fishing boat out of Dacca, Saudi Arabia, were suffering from exposure of dehydration. They were flown to a military hospital in a nearby country.



HH the Amir (right) yesterday received Syrian Vice President Abdul Halim Khaddam (second right) and Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa (second left). HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed (left) attended the meeting.

## Syrian and Soviet envoys meet Amir

# Intensive efforts to end Gulf war

**SYRIAN Vice President** Abdul Halim Khaddam had talks yesterday in Kuwait with Kuwaiti leaders on the prospects of bringing about a breakthrough in the Iraq-Iran conflict.

Arab diplomatic sources said, A Soviet official also arrived for talks on the Gulf war.

Khaddam, accompanied by Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa, visited Kuwait at the start of a tour of Gulf Arab nations that will also take him to Bahrain, Qatar and the UAE.

They left Kuwait yesterday and later arrived in Oman for similar talks.

Khaddam began the meetings in Kuwait by delivering a message from Syrian President Hafez Assad to HH the Amir.

Khaddam later held talks with HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah, Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Saoud Al Osaimi, an official statement said.

Well-informed sources said that the discussions covered the latest developments of the Iraq-Iran war and the outcome of recent Syrian efforts to bring about an end to the hostilities.

Khaddam told the Kuwaiti leadership anew that Syria was "keen to prevent an Iranian expansion of the war to include GCC countries," said one of the sources.

"Syria is apparently mediating an end to Iranian attacks on Kuwait and Saudi shipping," he added.

Meanwhile, Karen Brutents, deputy chief of the International Relations Bureau of the Soviet Communist Party's Central Committee, also met with HH the Amir, to whom he handed a message from the Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Brutents later conferred with HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah, the statement said.

The contents of Gorbachev's message were not disclosed, but Brutents has been in Syria and Egypt to report to their leaders on the outcome of last month's superpower summit to Washington between Gorbachev and US President Reagan.

Upon arrival in Kuwait later Tuesday, Brutents told reporters he would be briefing Kuwaiti leaders on the outcome of the summit and would also exchange views on the Gulf situation.

Brutents stressed that "one of the most important objectives of Soviet policy in the region" was to bring the Iraq-Iran war to a halt.

Moscow, he said, had "agreed to discuss a follow-up resolution" to the one passed by the UN Security Council last July 20 demanding a ceasefire to the Iraq-Iran hostilities, and yet to be implemented.

## Number of US ships in Gulf to remain same

**BAHRAIN, Jan 6, (Agencies):** US Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci met Bahraini leaders today in a review of American policy as US senators explored the possibility of levying charges for naval protection in the Gulf.

Carlucci had talks with Bahrain's Crown Prince and Defence Minister Sheikh Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa and other senior officials after arriving from Kuwait on the second leg of Gulf tour.

Carlucci told reporters in Bahrain he had not approved any recommendation that some ships be removed from the Gulf. He repeated the assertion in an interview on "Good Morning America," on the US television network ABC. But he said the United States has no intention of maintaining more than "the minimum number of forces needed to do the job" in the Gulf.

**Presence**

Carlucci also said in the televised interview from Bahrain that no policy changes on the US presence in the Gulf are being contemplated.

Government sources said the Navy has more ships than it needs to protect US-flagged oil tankers in the Gulf. The sources also acknowledged that the high cost of the operation is a consideration.

Carlucci said that after he returns to Washington next week, he will discuss with Reagan and military leaders any change in the "mix of ships" in the Gulf.

Asked on the ABC programme whether any ships were being removed, Carlucci said: "Those are just reports. They are not true as of this point, because I have not made any decisions."

But he added, "certainly, if the nature of the threat changes or if our allies are picking up some of the burden, say to mine sweeping, then it's always possible to change the mix of ships. . . . We will always have in the Gulf sufficient forces to enable our men to protect themselves but they will also be the minimum number of forces needed to do the job."

Carlucci also said he would discuss with Saudi Arabia any proposal it may have to extend US efforts to protect ships flying under the flags of other nations.

He told a news conference in Kuwait yesterday Washington was not seeking bases in the Gulf, but was committed to the security of the northern Gulf emirate on the fringe of the Iran-Iraq war.

## UN asks Israel not to deport Palestinians

**UNITED NATIONS, Jan 6, (Agencies):** The UN Security Council called on Israel yesterday not to deport Palestinian civilians it has accused of inciting violence in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The resolution was adopted unanimously, including support by the United States which said yesterday that Israel would be violating the 1949 Geneva Convention on the treatment of civilians in wartime if it deported more Palestinians arrested for incitement.

The council reaffirmed that the convention was applicable to Palestinian and other Arab territories that Israel had occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem. The status of Jerusalem, which Israel claims as its capital, remains unsettled.

**Wounded**

Meanwhile, an Israeli soldier shot and wounded a Palestinian in the West Bank city of Tulkarem today after the man attacked an Army vehicle and stabbed a woman soldier, the Army said.

A rash of demonstrations was reported throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip. In the West Bank town of Qalqilya, soldiers fired tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse Palestinian protesters. The Army clamped curfews on several cities and refugee camps.

Four people sought treatment at UN clinics after being injured in demonstrations at the Nuseirat, Bureij and Jabaliya refugee camps in the Gaza Strip, said UN spokeswoman Christine Dabagh.

She said a 20-year-old Jabaliya resident was injured by rubber bullets but could not provide details on the injuries of the others.

Twenty-five Palestinians have been killed by Israeli troops in anti-Israeli riots which broke out in the occupied territories on Dec 9.

**Tension**

"They also serve to increase tension rather than contribute to the creation of a political atmosphere conducive to reconciliation and negotiation," he said.

The United States hoped the matter would be reconsidered by the government of Israel, he added.

Israel today expressed regret that the United States had voted for the UN Security Council resolution.

"I regret very much the vote," Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said. "I see this as a breach and a severe diversion in our relationship with the United States."

Jordan and the PLO today welcomed the UN Security Council vote.

"We welcome the resolution and its unanimous passage. We are particularly happy that the United States voted for it," said Jordan's Occupied Territories Minister Marwan Doudin.

**Welcomed**

Egypt also welcomed the unanimous UN vote. Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel Meguid urged Israel to reconsider its policies of the unrest.

The Islamic Nation's Committee of Al Quds, meeting in emergency session, in Ifrane, (Continued on Page 2)

**Dollar surges**

**LONDON, Jan 6, (AP):** The US dollar surged upward against most major currencies in European trading today after a report that the United States, West Germany and Japan secretly agreed to stabilise it against the Japanese yen. Gold prices rose. In London, the dollar jumped more than 5-1/2 cents against the British pound. (See Page 12)

**Message**

The tour follows a shuttle by Al Sharaa between Tehran and Riyadh, which currently chairs the six-nation GCC. The shuttle was an apparent bid by Syria to use its good offices with Tehran to at least contain the hostilities between Iran and Iraq.

**Conferral**

Well-informed sources said that the discussions covered the latest developments of the Iraq-Iran war and the outcome of recent Syrian efforts to bring about an end to the hostilities.

**Proposal**

The Iraqi leader said talk of new Iranian "aggression" was strongly linked with developments on the political arena.

And he warned against any misinterpretation of Iraq's attitude towards UN Security Council resolution 598, ordering a ceasefire in the Gulf war.

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**Senators**

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An aide to the Senate group said the senators were looking into whether the US military commitment in the Gulf required Congress to invoke the war powers resolution. The senators arrived later today in Kuwait.

The team will meet tomorrow with Kuwaiti Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Saoud Mohammed Al Osaimi and Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Al Khalifa.

## Foreign-born mothers give birth to one US baby in 10

**WASHINGTON, Jan 6, (AP):** One of every 10 babies born in the United States in 1986, some 370,000 were the children of foreign-born women, the bureau said.

That 10 per cent rate is up from about 7.5 per cent of births in 1983, the only previous time births to foreign-born women were calculated, said Martin O'Connell of the bureau's fertility statistics branch.

## Bahrain identifies saboteurs

**MANAMA, Jan 6, (AP):** Authorities have disclosed the identity of an Iranian and two Bahrainis held on suspicion of attempting to blow up public and economic installations, newspapers reported.

The newspaper Akhbar Al-Khaleej and its sister English-language Gulf Daily News published photographs and names of the three men, revealing that an indictment and a case for the prosecution were being readied against them.

They were identified as 22-year-old Iranian schoolteacher Ahmed Hussein Mirza of the Iranian school here, Nabil Baqir Ibrahim, a 23-year-old Bahraini engineer at the Bahrain Petroleum Co., and Khaled Abdul-Rasoul Mohammed Al Amiri, 24, an engineer at the Ministry of Works.

The papers said Mirza has confessed he was trained on handling arms and detonating explosives at "a camp outside Bahrain." This was possibly an allusion to Iran.

Industry sources said security was tightened at Bahrain's refinery following the arrest of the three suspects last month.

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## Druze may shell Beirut port

**BEIRUT, Jan 6, (Reuters):** Christian militiamen shot at two UN helicopters over Beirut port today and security sources said some ships left the port amid fears that it could be shelled by Druze militia.

The sources said the ships panicked after an official of the Soviet Embassy told two Soviet vessels to leave. Soviet embassy officials were not available for comment.

It was not known why the Soviet ships left but a political source said Christian militants feared the Soviet might expect the Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP), which has good relations with Moscow, to shell the port.

The PSP and the Christian-dominated military have declared blockades of each other's ports in a dispute over a helicopter which a deserting Air Force officer flew to Druze territory last week.

The Christian Lebanese Forces (LF) militia, fearing, the helicopter would be used to attack Christian areas, said all helicopter flights over its area should be coordinated in advance.

A Lebanese Forces spokesman said the United Nations helicopters, which the militia fired at with anti-aircraft guns, had not abided by the instructions.

Meanwhile, pro-Iranian Islamic Resistance guerrillas threatened today to use force unless Israeli forces lifted a week-long siege of Yohmor, a southern Lebanese village, where security sources said people were running out of food.

## Impose UN resolution in toto: Saddam

**BAGHDAD, Jan 6, (Agencies):** President Saddam Hussein said today Iraq would accept no change in the UN resolution on a war ceasefire, would crush any Iranian offensive, and demanded sanctions be imposed on Tehran.

Addressing the nation on the Iraqi Army's 67th anniversary, Hussein said: "The Iraqis have once again begun to beat the drums, threatening to launch a new aggression. Iraq is determined to crush the aggression and make the Iranian forces taste a defeat which they had never tasted during the previous years of the war."

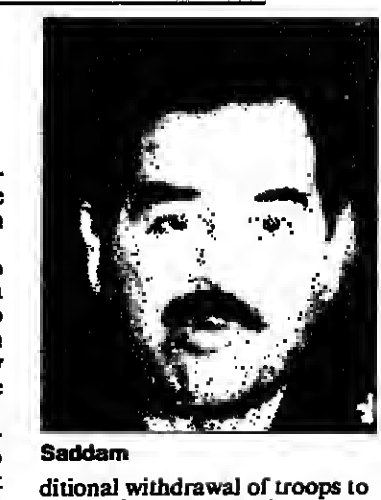
**Offensive**

Reports from Baghdad and Gulf-based diplomats say Iraq has massed more than 250,000 troops for a new offensive on the southern port city of Basra, with thousands more along the length of the war front.

Hussein described the last major offensive on Basra in December 1986 as the biggest military aggression in the seven-year-old war, for which the enemy had massed more than 300,000 men.

"The Iranian goal of the 1986 offensive was to occupy Basra and establish a hireling state to continue the war and aggression against Iraq and force hegemony on the Arab Gulf region," he said.

Hussein said Iraq would continue fighting till Iran submits to the will of right, accepts a "just peace and basis of dealing among states in the modern history."



**Saddam**

ditional withdrawal of troops to internationally-recognised borders, exchange of prisoners of war and achievement of durable peace, security and stability in the region," Hussein said.

Baghdad accepted the July 20 UN resolution but Tehran has demanded Iraq first be branded as "aggressor."

"Iraq will not accept any change in the resolution, whether in its serial order, content or results," the President said, urging the Security Council, UN

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**Increase**

The increase appears to stem from an increase in the overall population of foreign-born women in the nation, and a change in their composition with fewer from Europe and more from Latin America, O'Connell said in a telephone interview.

From 1983 to 1986 the number of foreign-born women in the United States climbed from 3.3 million to 3.8 million, with the vast majority of the increase among Latin American women, the report said.

In 1986, 53 per cent of foreign-born mothers were from Latin America — the largest share from Mexico — up from 48 per cent three years earlier, said O'Connell.

To the same period, the share of foreign-born mothers from Europe declined from 14 per cent to just over nine per cent, he said, with the share for mothers from other areas remaining relatively stable.

**DAY BY DAY**

THE new Residence Law puts too much pressure on Kuwaiti citizens, with most of its articles boldering Kuwaitis responsible for expatriates. Citizens are required, under the new law, to monitor the whereabouts of expatriates or face penalties.

The security body is the only one really responsible for security and not Kuwaiti citizens. This pressure on Kuwaitis needs to be reduced and one has only to read the new Residence Law articles to realise that this law places a burden on Kuwaiti citizens beyond their capability.

**Zahed Matar**

WEATHER	
PARTLY cloudy weather with moderate northwesterly wind.	
State of sea: moderate to rough	
High water: 3.00 am, 12.30 pm	
Low water: 6.00 am, 6.30 pm	
Sunrise: 6.43 am	
Sunset: 5.05 pm	
Maximum temperature recorded:	
Kuwait: 19°C 66°F	
Amman: 18°C 64°F	
Fallaka: 18°C 64°F	
Maximum temperature expected:	
Kuwait: 14°C 57°F	
Amman: 13°C 55°F	
Fallaka: 13°C 55°F	
Minimum humidity recorded:	
Kuwait: 93 per cent	
Fallaka: 93 per cent	
Maximum humidity expected:	
Kuwait: 98 per cent	
Amman: 98 per cent	
Fallaka: 99 per cent	
Minimum temperature recorded:	
Kuwait: 9°C 48°F	
Amman: 12°C 54°F	
Fallaka: 12°C 54°F	

**8 Tamils killed**

**COLOMBO, Jan 6, (Reuters):** An Indian military helicopter attacked and killed eight Tamil separatist guerrillas in a boat off eastern Sri Lanka today, Indian officials said.

**Defend**

"The security of the Gulf and that of Egypt are indivisible," he said. "If anything happens to Iraq, all the region including Egypt would be affected. Even Syria is not immune against such dangers."

**Complained**

"The Camp David accords cancel neither our Arab obligations nor (Egypt's) commitment to the joint Arab defence," Mubarak insisted. "We do help Iraq, despite the treaty between us and Israel."

Responding to a question Mubarak discounted speculation about Cairo planning to

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**Hotel fire**

**MANILA, Jan 6, (Reuters):** A fire broke out at Manila's Holiday Inn hotel today, causing panic, but it was extinguished after an hour with minor damage and no casualties, police said.

Manila fire chief Lieutenant Colonel Mario Tanchanco said firemen arrived just in time to stop 25 hotel guests from jumping off third-floor ledges of the 19-storey building.

**US seeks just Kabul settlement**

**ISLAMABAD, Jan 6, (Reuters):** US Undersecretary of State Michael Armacost, ending a three-day visit to Pakistan today, said the United States sought a credible peace settlement in Afghanistan.

But he also told a news conference the United States would continue to back resistance to the

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## INTERNATIONAL

## Hamadi seen as 'traitor' in Beirut

DUESSELDORF, Jan 6, (AP): The defence attorney for alleged kidnapper Abbas Ali Hamadi told a Dusseldorf court today that his client is considered a traitor in Beirut and would be killed if he returned there.

Abbas Hamadi is accused of kidnapping two West Germans nearly a year ago in a bid to win the release of his brother, Mohammed Ali Hamadi, accused of masterminding the June 1985 TWA hijacking.

The Abbas Hamadi trial entered its second day today in a heavily guarded Dusseldorf courtroom.

"He is considered a traitor by some circles in Beirut. If he returned to Beirut he would be shot and killed," defence attorney Eckhard Hild told the crowded courtroom.

## Swap

Hild did not elaborate. West Germany has said it will not swap either of the imprisoned Hamadi brothers in gain the release of a West German hostage in Lebanon, despite pressure coming from extremists in Beirut.

The kidnappers have issued a warning in Beirut, with threatening language indicating that West German may be targeted for terrorist attacks stemming from alleged mistreatment of 23-year-old Mohammed Hamadi.

## Fog paralyzes main cities in Turkey

ISTANBUL, Jan 6, (Reuters): Heavy fog smothered Istanbul and Ankara today, halting shipping through the Bosphorus Strait and bringing air traffic to a halt.

Istanbul airport weather officials said visibility was near zero in parts of the city, home to six million people. Air traffic at the busy Ataturk airport was stopped in the early hours.

Visibility in Ankara was less than 100 metres and all flights to and from the capital were cancelled, officials said.

Istanbul port officials said sea traffic through the Bosphorus was halted last night. Ships were advised to anchor at the Black Sea and Marmara Sea entrances of the strait as no piloting services could be provided.

Passenger ferries which carry most of the city's commuters between the Asian and European halves of the city were not operating, they added.

Weather officials said a rise in temperature in the upper atmosphere had caused the heavy blanket of fog to stay over the city, and this was aggravated by industrial pollution and the use of high-sulphur lignite coal for domestic heating.

Turkey's third largest city Izmir on the Aegean coast was also hit by heavy fog today and the airport closed to traffic.

## Most of the issues resolved: Soviet minister

## Afghan settlement near

NEW DELHI, Jan 6, (Reuters): The Soviet Union wants the round of talks on Afghanistan scheduled for Geneva next month to be the last and to end in agreement, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Anatoly Adamishin said in remarks published today.

Addressing a restricted group of journalists here, Adamishin said number of issues regarding the ending of the nine-year war in Afghanistan had been settled, and the major remaining point was the timetable for withdrawal of Soviet troops.

Indian newspapers quoted him as telling the journalists that Moscow had "taken a strong decision to withdraw troops from Afghanistan in 12 months — it could be even earlier."

## Government

Troops were already being pulled out of regions of Afghanistan where there was a ceasefire, he added, and there were now no Soviet soldiers in 12 of the coun-

try's 29 provinces.

The Afghan rebels who have fought the government for the past nine years want Moscow to pull out its estimated 115,000 troops within eight months. But apart from the timetable, the Soviet Union is concerned over what kind of government it will leave behind.

This is likely to be a major issue at the United Nations-sponsored "proximity" talks next month in Geneva, at which UN Deputy Secretary-General Diego Cordovez will mediate between separate Afghan and Pakistani delegations.

The Pakistanis, hosts to more than three million Afghan refugees, will represent the views of the anti-Soviet Mujahideen who have rejected Kabul's national reconciliation process.

Adamishin indicated the process, designed to bring non-Moscow-aligned parties into government, would continue.

National reconciliation was

an internal matter for the Afghans, he was quoted as saying, "as ultimately they will have to decide what type of government they want to have."

## Frenchman

The official Afghan news agency Bakhtar denounced jailed French journalist Alain Guillo today, saying he had tried to incite bloodshed and helped rebels obtain sophisticated anti-aircraft missiles.

A Bakhtar commentary said there was undeniable evidence he was a spy and not a journalist and that he had helped other spies from France, Britain, the United States, Pakistan and Arab countries enter Afghanistan illegally.

Guillo, 45, who was captured in September during a trip to Afghanistan with anti-Soviet rebels, was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment for spying by a special court in Kabul on Monday.

A freelance reporter and photographer for the French

photo agency Sygma, he was on his ninth trip to the war-torn country.

France denounced the conviction and called on the Soviet Union to secure his immediate release.

## Maps

Bakhtar, monitored in Islamabad, said authorities had confiscated 26 maps considered secret documents from Guillo.

It said the maps had been provided by a "French state organ."

The commentary added that Guillo had noted the rebels' "requirements... in modern weapons such as Stinger missiles and Blowpipes and sought to provide them."

The US-made Stingers and British-made Blowpipes, shoulder-fired anti-aircraft missiles, have played a large role in neutralising Soviet and Afghan government air power in 1987, Western experts say.

## UFO 'sighted' over West London

LONDON, Jan 6, (UPI): A saucer-shaped UFO was spotted hovering over West London for two hours — a sighting confirmed by police — but Scotland Yard and the Ministry of Defence are not planning to investigate.

Three policemen, summoned by a 16-year-old girl who spotted a bizarre object in the sky, reported back to their station-house that they too had seen the unidentified flying object, a police spokesman said.

Zena Sfei, 16, noticed the saucer-shaped, brightly coloured object and mounted a telescope on the doorstep to her family home early Sunday, then called police to verify the sighting. She said the object hovered high over the West London neighbourhood of Kensington before disappearing two hours later.

"What I saw was a flat grey-green saucer and as it turned I saw lights," Sfei, an astronomy buff, told the British Broadcasting Corp. "That's when I realised it couldn't have been a star."

She said the officers at first did not believe her but "they soon changed."

"Police officers saw an unidentified object after a call from a member of the public," the police spokesman confirmed. "We are unable to say what it was."

## 'All peaceful means exhausted'

## No talks with rebels: Aquino

MANILA, Jan 6, (Reuters): Philippine President Corazon Aquino has exhausted all peaceful means to settle the communist insurgency and further talks will be "a dialogue of the deaf," her spokesman said today.

Presidential press secretary Teodoro Benigno told reporters after a cabinet meeting Aquino's policy of an all-out military offensive against the 18-year-old communist insurgency "stands."

"The government has always maintained it has already exhausted all peaceful means to arrive at a peaceful settlement," Benigno said.

Benigno said he saw the military "shaping the strategy" against leftist insurgents and right-wing army rebels in 1988.

## Iranians are still on hunger strike

ABIDJAN, Jan 6, (Reuters): Iranian refugees expelled from France to Gabon entered the fifth week of their hunger strike today, with three of them in hospital in serious condition, a spokesman for the group said.

"We are still determined in fast until flown back to France," spokesman Mohammed Ali-ye Sheikh told Reuters by telephone from the Gabonese capital, Libreville.

France expelled the 12 Iranians and three Turks on Dec 8, saying they were members of the Mujahideen Khalq, the main armed group opposed to Iran's spiritual leader Ayatollah Khomeini and threatened France's national security.

Sheikh said the 12 hunger strikers were under round-the-clock medical supervision at a hotel in Libreville and were all suffering headaches and low blood pressure.

They were taking only fruit juice and tea with sugar and four of them were suffering from acute eye pains had paid a brief visit to hospital earlier in the week, the spokesman said.



Firemen in traditional costume perform stunts on ladders during Tokyo fire department's New Year's parade at Tokyo's Harumi Pier. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Israelis seal off S. Lebanon village

BEIRUT, Jan 6, (Reuters): Residents are running out of food in a south Lebanese village besieged for a week by Israeli troops and their Lebanese militia allies, security sources said today.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said in Beirut efforts had started to get food and medicine to the village of Yohmor, north of an Israeli-declared "security zone."

An ICRC spokeswoman said ICRC delegates entered Yohmor on foot on Tuesday. "There is a problem inside the village but we don't know how bad it is," she said.

The security sources said Israeli troops and militia men of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) cordoned off Yohmor last Wednesday after a commando attack on a nearby SLA position.

Conditions in the village are becoming desperate, especially with the gold and people running out of food, one source said.

He said the 6,000 villagers could move around freely inside the village but could not leave it and farmers could not go to their fields.

Civilians in the area said the Israeli and SLA troops were refusing to let Lebanese past checkpoints clamped on all its entrances.

Inside the village, they (the Israeli forces) have been storming houses, said one civilian with relatives in Yohmor.

The village, southeast of the market town of Nabatieh, is five km northwest of the border with Israel and just outside a border zone set up by Israel in 1985 to block commando attacks.

The Israeli Army said it shot dead one commando and captured a second wounded commando in the Yohmor area a week ago. Troops found explosives, roadside bombs and weapons nearby.

Some residents said the Israelis were hunting for a Yohmor commando who had helped to kill one of the commanders.

Beirut newspapers said today that acting Prime Minister Selim Hoss and Nabih Berri, Minister of State for South Lebanon, were discussing how to get the Israeli and SLA forces to leave.

They said Lebanon might seek UN help to lift the blockade.

## UN asks Israel not to deport Palestinians

(Continued from Page 1)

Morocco condemned Israeli occupation of Palestinian territory and "inhuman Zionist practices" against the population and called for a halt to them, according to a text published today.

At a meeting last night presided over by Moroccan King Hassan II, the Al Quds Committee called for an international Middle East peace conference "as soon as possible."

Amnesty International said it had sent a message to Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin yesterday calling for a stop to arbitrary arrests and summary trials of Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip because they "violate international standards."

In a related development, a senior British Foreign Office official visiting Israel renewed his criticism of the Army's actions.

The official, David Mellor, had sparked angry responses from Israeli officials on Monday when he publicly rebuked an Army officer over the arrest of a 14-year-old for stone throwing during a tour of a Gaza Strip refugee camp.

"I told (Israeli Defence Minister) Yitzhak Rabin when I was in the camp with me, he would have seen as I saw, a situation in which his men are increasingly being asked to do a job no human being can do without losing control, without people dying," Mellor told a news conference today.

"How long are people going to think that 1.5 million (Palestinian) people can just be kept under the point of a gun?" Mellor said. "It can't go on, and that is what the international community is saying."

British opposition foreign affairs spokesman Gerald Kaufman prevented an Israeli officer from taking away a British television crew arrested in a West Bank Palestinian refugee camp today, a member of the crew said.

Brent Sadler, Middle East correspondent for Independent Television News (ITN), said the politician obtained his release and that of two colleagues after they were arrested filming a disturbance at Balata refugee camp near Nablus.

Kaufman was not available to give his version of the incident because he was visiting the Gaza Strip.

## Soviet scientist refuses to return

NEW DELHI, Jan 6, (AP): A Soviet scientist, who sought political asylum in the Australian High Commission here three weeks ago, refuses to return voluntarily to the Soviet Union, an Australian diplomat said today.

Alexander Babiy, 25, disappeared from a Soviet tour group on Dec 18 and reached the Australian High Commission, or embassy. He has been living in the High Commission since then.

Brett Martin, a spokesman for the high commission, said Babiy did not wish to return to the Soviet Union. He said the scientist was reacting to an offer yesterday by Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Ada Mishin that Babiy return to the Soviet Union and then seek permission to emigrate.

## Emergency landing

ISTANBUL, Jan 6, (Reuters): Two Turkish charter airlines made emergency landings this week, airline officials said today.

The officials said a DC-10 airliner chartered to Turkish Airlines (THY) was forced to return to Istanbul yesterday after parts broke off its port engine and gouged two big holes in the tail engine.

Loss of cabin pressure forced the pilot of another charter plane, a THY A-310 Airbus, to make an emergency landing at Ercan in the breakaway Turkish republic of North Cyprus today, airport sources said.

## Impose UN resolution...

(Continued from Page 1)

Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar and related states to "continue without hesitation their plan to impose sanctions against the outlawed Iranian regime."

Saddam also criticised the Soviet Union for blocking UN-led attempts to impose sanctions against Iran for its refusal to accept resolution 598.

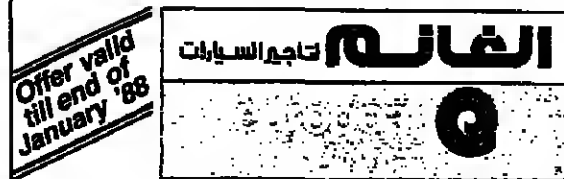
"Those who have been appealing the Iranian regime during the past months have encouraged it to continue in its manoeuvres and lies," Hussein said.

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# Lazy university students expect to be spoon-fed

By Jadranka Porter

THE vice-rector for academic affairs at Kuwait University has slammed the students for their slothful approach to studies saying that most of them are lazy, they avoid hard work and expect to be spoon-fed.

Laying the blame squarely on students for their poor academic records Ahmed Bishara said: "There is no excuse for their avoiding hard work and looking for easy options."

"They refuse to learn things the hard way," he told the Arab Times in an interview.

They have no special interests and lack creativity and initiative, Bishara said.

**Pressures**  
He acknowledged the existence of social pressures but refuted notions that these were a powerful deflection in one's pursuit of academic studies.

Neither students nor the society at large are concerned with academic excellence, he said, adding that the society's judgement of a person is based on "a piece of paper called a diploma and not on the skills one has acquired."

"In other countries students show a keen interest to master a subject and they seek self-fulfilment through studying. They are not concerned with what the society thinks. Thus you may

have a carpenter with a degree in astronomy. This is unimaginable in Kuwait," Bishara said.

Most students have an ambition merely to pass the examinations and not to reach a high academic standard. They are prepared to use their potential only if a tangible reward is in sight, he said.

**Motivation**  
He found that many students lacked motivation but he emphasised that the role of the university is to create a challenge and not motivation. The majority students refuse to meet the challenge.

"Motivation is something they should already have by the time they enter university," he said. Hardly any of them take the trouble to use all the facilities that the university offers.

A student expects a faculty member to take him by the hand and spoon-feed him. "This is not going to happen. Those who don't like it are free to leave," he said.

He refuted claims that the upspring is responsible for students' indolence. "They learn fast where to meet the girls. There is no reason to believe they are not mature enough to take their studies seriously," said Bishara.

"We cannot remould students, they are already conditioned when they enter university," he said.

He said he would deem it a

success if 10 per cent of the university's students turned out to be first-rate graduates.

One area where students showed some ingenuity was in attempting to pass the examinations by cheating. Bishara said the university had been unable to establish how prevalent that phenomenon was but contended that the offenders are suspended and those caught cheating for the second time are expelled from the university.

According to recently released figures, 284 students have been expelled and 3,067 were put on probation for various offences including cheating. No action can be taken against faculty members who are lenient with students at examinations or give passing to students in return for a personal gain, unless evidence is produced to support the accusations, Bishara said.

But if there is a strong suspicion that a faculty member has cooperated with a student attempting to pass an exam using unlawful means, his or her contract would not be renewed. So far no evidence has been produced against any faculty member.

The university has launched a study to pin-point the loopholes in the system and identify methods of cheating, but eventually the responsibility rests on the faculty and students, and the solution should be sought in their relationship, Bishara said.



HH the Amir yesterday received Karen Brutents (centre) deputy chief of the International Relations Bureau of the Soviet Communist Party's Central Committee.



HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah, yesterday met members of the Druze community in Kuwait.

## Doctors denounce trend to have self-induced abortions

By Lima Khalafawi

DOCTORS in Kuwait have denounced the trend among certain women who have self-induced abortions. Abortions are prohibited by law in Kuwait and all Islamic countries.

One doctor at Kuwait's Maternity Hospital said that if a woman has a self-induced abortion and it fails she is rushed to hospital where the patient receives urgent medical care. In such cases a sonar scan is done to see if the fetus is unhatched and if it is safe the doctors try to save it.

But if the fetus has died, doctors are forced to perform an abortion. In such cases, doctors maintain strict confidentiality.

**Eager**  
"If the woman wants the matter kept secret, the doctor will respect her right to privacy and will not report to the authorities. All doctors agree on this point," said gynaecologist Dr Ahmed Al Bahar.

Dr Al Bahar said abortions are performed only when the pregnancy endangers a mother's health or life, heart disease and



Dr Al Bahar

cancer would make such an operation necessary, he said. If a decision to abort a fetus is taken, a committee of three specialist doctors review the case and if they all agree, an operation is performed.

Abortion is permitted by law if the fetus has congenital abnormalities such as cytomegalovirus or toxoplasmosis. Such operations are also allowed if a pregnant mother has renal disease, hypothyroidism or fibroid uterus.

"Doctors are always eager to save the baby. Abortions are the

last option and only done in case of severe emergency," stressed Al Bahar.

Problematic and difficult cases are referred to the specialist clinic at the Maternity Hospital.

Al Bahar said some women, who had sonar scans to determine the sex of the baby, insisted on aborting if they know it is a girl. "We never perform an abortion in such cases," insisted Al Bahar.

Abortion is permitted by law only in certain other conditions, for example if the baby has congenital abnormalities.

Too many miscarriages could affect a mother's psychological well-being, said Dr Dalal Al Salem. She said: "A series of miscarriages would not affect a woman's health but they would harm her psychologically."

In Kuwait, about six per cent of pregnant women have what are known as "spontaneous miscarriages," which doctors consider to be a "normal trend." Miscarriages are common among women over the age of 38 or in mother's who suffer hereditary diseases.

About 1200 miscarriages were recorded in Kuwait in 1986.

## Air India-IA computer link

THE Air India office in Kuwait yesterday announced the start of a direct on-line real-time link with the Indian Airlines computer for instantaneous bookings on Indian Airlines sectors.

If seats are available, the required reservations are confirmed immediately.

The press release said this major development in the reservation system of Air India and Indian Airlines will enable travel agents and travellers to finalise their arrangements much faster than before.

## UAE sets up isolation centres to treat AIDS victims

ABU DHABI, Jan 6, (UPI): Health authorities in the United Arab Emirates have started to set up isolation centres for the treatment of AIDS victims, a UAE newspaper reported today.

The Dubai-based Gulf News daily said isolation centres have already been established in two of the emirates, while work is underway to set up more centres in other emirates.

"Hopefully by the end of 1988, these vital centres will be in operation throughout the coun-

try in order that AIDS patients can be separated from other members of the community and reduce the chance of spreading the deadly virus," the paper quoted a Health Ministry spokesman as saying.

Dr Abdul Gaffar Mohammed, however, said the centres will be restricted to the care of UAE nationals.

A recent statistics conducted by the Health Ministry shows that there have been 350 positive cases of AIDS detected in the country.

Dr Mohammed said relatives and close friends of isolated victims will be allowed to visit patients at these centres on a regular basis as part of the "psychological counselling" approved at the centre along with medication.

## Watch worth KD 5,000 stolen

THE theft of a watch worth KD5,000 was reported by a woman.

She told the Adailiya police station that the watch and other items worth about KD 40 disappeared from her bedroom.

Meanwhile, a Syrian woman told Fahahel police station that two people on a mini-bike snatched her purse and rode away.

## Civil aviation conference

GULF Cooperation Council ministers responsible for civil aviation will hold their fourth conference in Riyadh on January 19, to debate the various issues of civil aviation in the member states and coordination among the states in this field.

## KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

### An inappropriate step

A KUWAITI newspaper yesterday advised the Palestinian leadership against announcing a government-in-exile saying such a step is both inappropriate and hasty.

"Events and historic realities have proven that on exile government is inappropriate and hasty given the complexity of the Palestinian problem, the intricacy of its elements and the parties involved in it," commented the daily Al Rai Al Aam.

The paper stressed that the focus should now be on boosting the momentum of the current Palestinian uprising in occupied Palestine.

"Having reached its peak and drawn support and sympathy throughout the world, we do not want this genuine popular upheaval against the continued Israeli occupation of Palestine to lose momentum," the daily went on.

It added that the month-long demonstrations in which protestors are using stones against firearms and teargas have heralded a new phase in the national Palestinian struggle.

But the paper warned that the Palestine National Liberation Movement would be torpedoed if the Palestinian leadership mooted a government in exile.

"Therefore we fear that the idea of an exile government under the current circumstances would be divisive of the Palestinian house," the paper concluded.

### Saudi official meets Assad again

DAMASCUS, Jan 6, (AP): Syrian President Hafez Assad met yesterday for a second time in many days with Prince Abdul Rahman bin Abdel Aziz, Saudi Arabia's Deputy Defence Minister.

The official Syrian Arab News Agency said only that the talks dealt with the situation in the region and "issues of mutual concern."

The Saudi official, in Damascus since Sunday, had conveyed a verbal message from King Fahd to Assad during a meeting on Monday.

The contents of the message also were not disclosed. But the kingdom has been spearheading efforts to cement a reconciliation between Syria and Iraq, ruled by rival wings of the pan-Arab Baath Party.

Assad and President Saddam Hussein of Iraq had agreed in November during an Arab summit meeting in Amman, Jordan, to work on ending the eight-year strain.

The agreement was followed by a halt in a bitter war of words by the official media in both countries. But no other progress toward normalising relations has been made.

### Saudi prince to open conference on crime

THE Saudi Deputy Interior Minister Prince Ahmed Bin Abdul Aziz will open the Fourth International Joint Conference for Crime Prevention Research to be held in Riyadh on January 13. The conference, organised by the Riyadh-based Arab Centre for Security Studies and Training in cooperation with the United Nations Social Defence Research Institute, is part of the preparations being made for the United Nations Eighth Conference on Crime Prevention and Penal Issues, to be held in 1990.

The UN Conference will debate several topics, including crime prevention, countering organised crime and the prevention of juvenile delinquency.

The conference in Riyadh will set up a penal programme based on an international study on penal institutions and the overcrowded conditions in jails throughout the world.

### Medical report submitted

A MEDICAL report on a Sri Lankan maid who claimed to have been beaten by her employer was submitted by the security investigator at the Sabah Hospital to the relevant authorities.

### Charitable society registered

KUWAIT'S Minister of Social Affairs and Labour Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamad Al Sabab said that the Charitable Society for Social Solidarity had been registered at the ministry and would be based in Kuwait City. The purpose of the society is to support needy people in Kuwait and abroad as well as helping with the social adjustment of accident victims.

The founders of the society are Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabab, Abdul Aziz Al Adasani, Dr Abdul Rahman Abdullah Al Awadi, Ahmad Al Jasser, Mohammed Al Meoshari, Abdul Aziz Al Utaihi, Hamad Al Wazzan, Nayef Al Meoshari, Dr Kamal Al Zinati and Abdullah Al Hammad. The society will be run by a seven-member board elected by the general assembly for three years.

### Pollution in Gulf under study

A SOURCE at Kuwait's Environmental Protection Council said that the council is studying the increased pollution in the Gulf sea water and considering methods to solve this problem. He added that the council is actively attempting to protect this main water source because of its many uses.

The source explained further that the council is interested in developing studies on fish resources, especially ways of increasing production and is looking for fishing areas that are still abundant in fish reserves. He added that the council encourages the legislative enforcement of regulations prohibiting the fishing of shrimp during specified times of the year and controlling the use of nets to protect young fish.

### 113,000 bottles of liquor destroyed

A KUWAITI daily reported that 113,000 bottles of liquor and 20,000 cans of beer were destroyed under the supervision of representatives of the Public Prosecutors Office, the Interior Ministry and Customs Department in the Sulabiya area recently. The liquor and beer had been seized by customs men at Kuwait's various border entries.

### Boy commits suicide

A YOUNG boy committed suicide in the Sulabiya area by hanging himself from a ceiling fan. Relatives of the boy said that he had been depressed after getting bad marks in examinations for the Secondary School Certificate. It was reported that he had been teased about his bad marks in front of friends the same day on which he killed himself.

## Malayalee Samajam annual celebration



THE Malayalee Samajam held a function at the Indian Embassy auditorium recently as part of their 10th annual celebration. It was opened by the headmistress of the Indian School, Kunjankunnam Daniel.

A symposium was also held. Nine poets took part in a poetry recital and some dances were performed. Picture shows Sainu Pallithazhu (right) reciting a poem.

## Amir sends message to Saleh

SANAA, Jan 6, (Kuna): President Ali Abdullah Saleh of the Yemen Arab Republic has received a message from HH the Amir of Kuwait condemning the terrorist Iraqi practices against the Palestinian people in occupied Palestine, Radio Sanaa reported today.

The state-run broadcast said the Amir of Kuwait, in his capacity as chairman of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), pointed out that Israeli military authorities are using violence and weapons in a desperate bid to quell the mounting Palestinian anger.

In his letter, the Kuwaiti leader argued, that Israeli occupation forces are indulging in the worst human rights violations against the Palestinian civilians.

The OIC chairman emphasised that "our Palestinian brethren need all the support and backing they could receive from Islamic countries."

The Amir added that supporting the Palestinian demonstrators is instrumental to achieving universal human rights.

Concluding, the OIC leader urged heads of Islamic states to "throw their weight behind current efforts to realise legitimate Palestinian rights and stop the barbaric Zionist onslaughts against our Palestinian brethren in Palestine."

## Security course ends

A CEREMONY was held yesterday to mark the end of the sixth specialised security course held at the Police Officers training school.

It was attended by the assistant undersecretary for police affairs at the Interior Ministry, Brigadier Mohammed Ahmad Qabandi.

The course was taken by employees of the Communication Ministry, Electricity and Water Ministry, Public Ports Authority, Kuwait University, the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training, and Kuwait Airways Corporation.

## Heavy rains

FOR farmers and herdsmen 1988 got off to a very good start yesterday with the heaviest rains of the season.

The downpour covered the whole country and will certainly help to ensure good grazing throughout the desert. The grey skies that covered Kuwait were accompanied by thunderstorms.

The total amount of rainfall yesterday was 7.5mm.

In the city, the rain wasn't quite so welcome. There was some disruption of traffic due to the rain and some accidents were reported. People, particularly commuters, were seen rushing for shelter. Roads became very slippery. Due to the buildup of sand, oil and rubber on the surface throughout the rest of the year, rains made road conditions very treacherous.

Drivers are urged to take special care, particularly when breaking. Another hazard is caused by faulty windshield wipers which people neglect during the fine weather only to find that when the rains come the rubber has perished and the wipers are totally useless.

## Unified mathematics syllabus for Gulf states

THE assistant undersecretary for planning and development at the Education Ministry, Rashid Al Hamad, said the unified and improved mathematics syllabus for Gulf states was the first of its kind to be tried out on a scientific basis.

He said a large number of experts from the Gulf and abroad took part in preparing the syllabus.

The new maths syllabus for the first primary class was used experimentally in six schools in Kuwait in preparation for their general use. A committee of specialists had been formed to follow up implementation and evaluate how students responded to the new syllabus.

The committee sought the opinion of principals, teachers and others, and the majority praised the text book.

At the end of the 1986/87 academic year, 306 out of 850 students doing the new syllabus passed with 95 per cent marks, while previously the rate was 90 per cent.

Based on this, the ministry decided to use the book in all classes from the current academic year.

Al Hamad said that mathematics books for the second and third primary classes were being used experimentally this year and the results so far had been encouraging.

## Special committee to assess fee on gardens

MUSA Al Sarraf, the Head of the Organisation Department at Kuwait Municipality, said that a special committee with representatives of the Municipality, the Public Authority for Agriculture and the State Properties Department had authorised the assessment of a fee on gardens and landscaping done in front of citizen's houses as a means of protecting public right to this property.

The committee has agreed to also require citizens to sign pledges that they will not request

compensation for damage to landscaped areas outside of their property in cases where the government must use this property for public purposes. Al Sarraf explained that a citizen who wishes to landscape the area in front of his house must get a licence from the Municipality at a cost of KD 1.

Regulations further dictate that concrete walls or wooden fences may not be constructed around public property and that trees, shrubs and flowers planted must not hinder pedestrians.

## Nasser receives French official

CHAIRMAN of the Franco-Arab Circle French Deputy Yves Guena was received by the Kuwaiti Information Minister Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmed.

The talks dealt with ways of cementing cooperation between Paris and Kuwait, notably in information areas.

Guena and Sheikh Nasser also discussed matters of common interest in the presence of the French Ambassador to Kuwait Marcel Laugel and a French Foreign Ministry official who is accompanying Guena.

## Cafeteria project

THE Board of Directors of the Social Security Fund for employees of Kuwait's Education Ministry and the Public Authority of Applied Education and Training met recently under the chairmanship of Naser Al Osaimi.

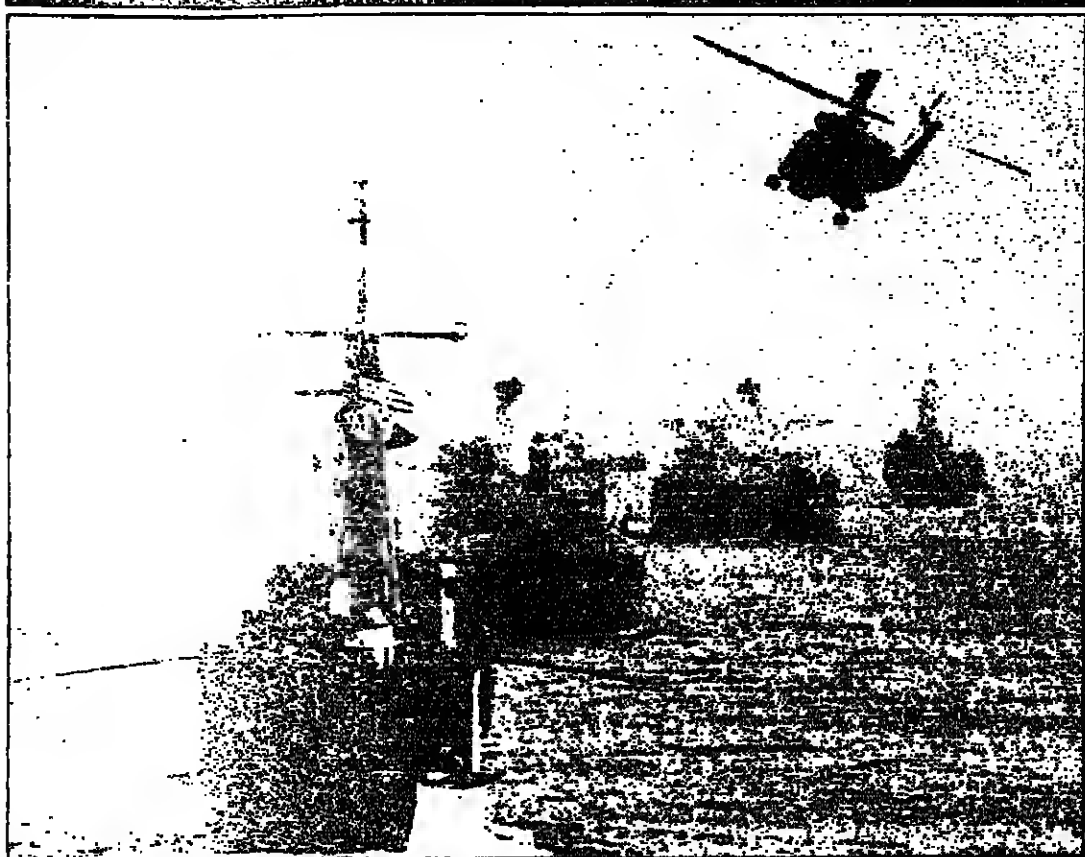
The meeting discussed ways of implementing the cafeteria project to be applied in several ministry departments and agreed to refer a proposal calling for the purchase of government bonds to a special committee for further study.



The picture, (at left) shows men running through slush for shelter, and the picture (at right) shows a bus damaged in an accident due to the rain.







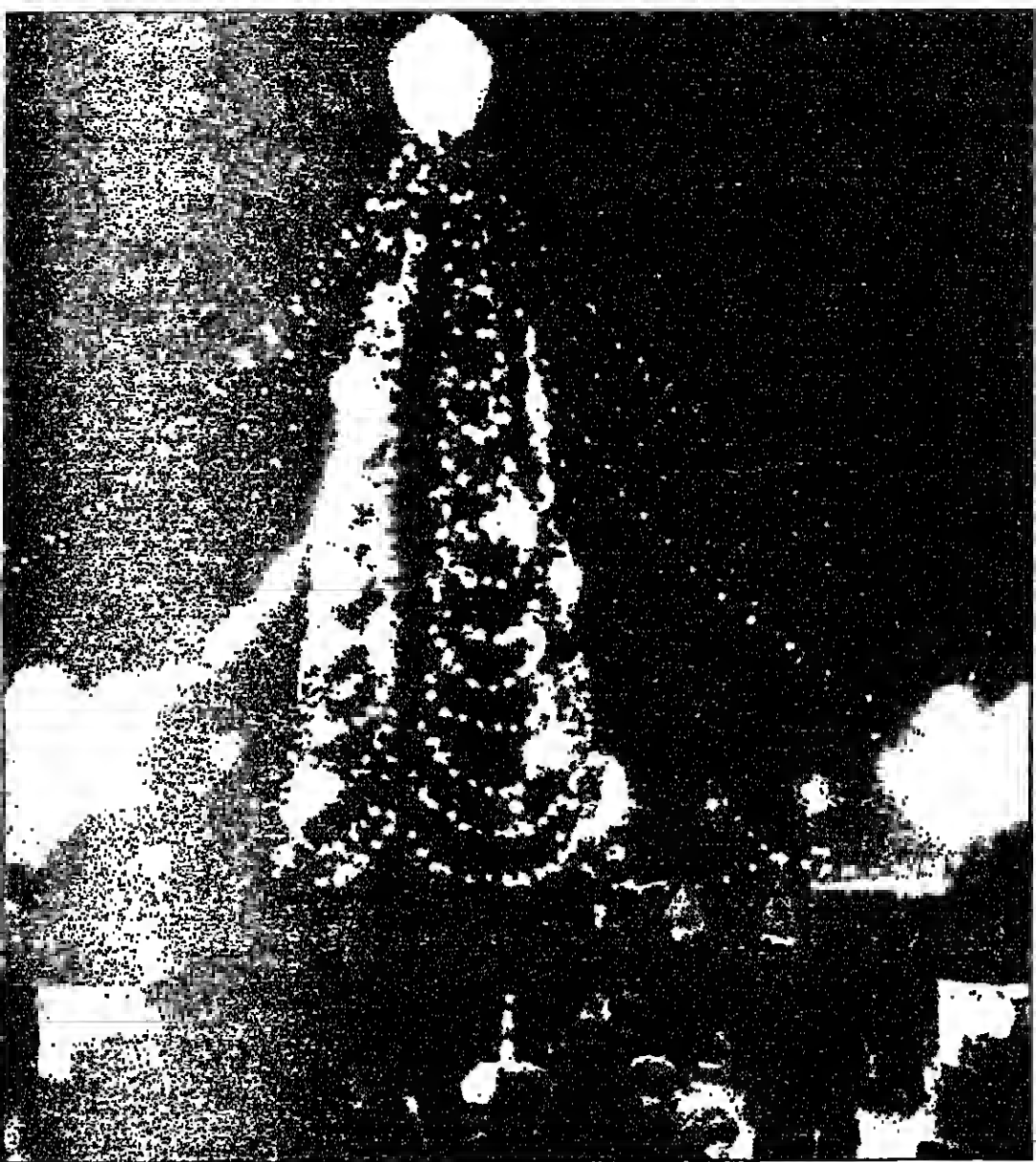
A US Navy helicopter flies over the 23rd American convoy in the southern Gulf yesterday. The reflagged tankers 'Bridgeton', 'Surf City', 'Lawrence H. Gianella' and 'Rover' were escorted by the US frigates 'Flood' (foreground) 'Gallary' and 'McClusky' on their way to the Strait of Hormuz. (Reuter wirephoto)



JANAKI RAMACHANDRAN, widow of M.G. Ramachandran, stands by her film star husband's portrait yesterday after winning the battle to succeed him as chief minister of India's key southern state of Tamil Nadu. (Reuter wirephoto)



SUPPORTERS of the Greek Socialist Party of Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu welcome Greek Culture Minister Melina Mercouri in Piraeus yesterday during the Epiphany celebration and the blessing of the water. (Reuter wirephoto)



A CHRISTMAS tree lights up the square in this Siberian city. The Russian orthodox Christmas falls on January 7 this year. (Reuter wirephoto)



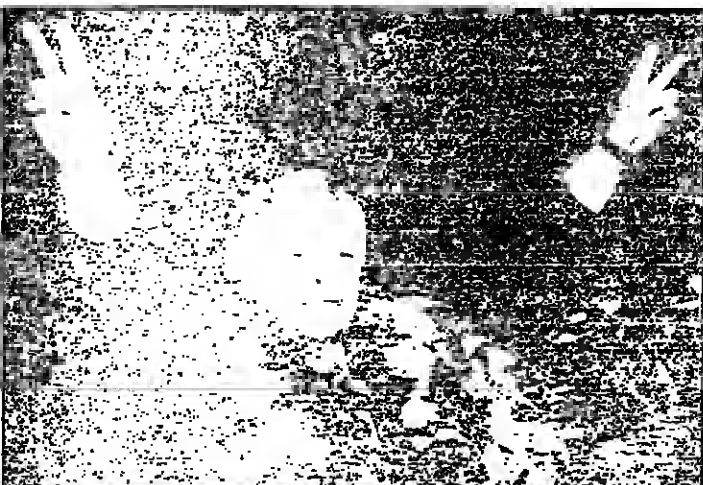
ONE of the victims of a Tokyo disco accident is carried out from the premises by a friend and rescue worker. Three women were killed and 15 others were injured when a two-ton chandelier fell on dancers at a disco in Tokyo's Roppongi Tuesday night. (Reuter wirephoto)



MACHO film star Charlton Heston has his hands full while wrestling with a giant stuffed lion at the start of Harrods' January sale yesterday. Heston was not tempted to buy the toy, reduced from 1,045 to 395 sterling, and said the sale was 'more crowded than the chariot race in the Ben Hur movie.' (Reuter wirephoto)



THE head of King Kong — King of the Apes — is carried past Madrid's Puerto de Alcala monument complete with a pretty girl during a Three Kings parade through the city Tuesday night. (Reuter wirephoto)



UNSUCCESSFUL presidential candidate Kim Young-Sam waves in victory as he was re-elected as leader of South Korea's Reunification Democratic Party on Wednesday at its national convention in Seoul (Reuter wirephoto)



KING JUAN CARLOS embraces exiled Soviet cellist Mstislav Rostropovich watched by Queen Sofia, after a concert Tuesday evening to mark the Spanish monarch's 50th birthday. (Reuter wirephoto)



A PALESTINIAN youth at Bir Zeit University displays a poster of PLO chairman Yasser Arafat as he holds a bottle during a demonstration. Israeli soldiers did not appear at Bir Zeit and no trouble was reported. (Reuter wirephoto)



MRS PETER BALOGH fondles her pet, a 32-year-old goose. The aged animal was born when Mrs Balogh's son went abroad, and it's keeper decided not to slaughter the animal before the son comes back to stay. (Reuter wirephoto)

هكذا من الأهل



# EVENTS

## The coffee shop beckons..



### Table Talk

BY DINAH

OFTEN the coffee shop of a hotel has a better ambience than its premier restaurant. In spite of the spectacular views from the Hilton's Fairlane restaurant, to my taste the La Palma coffee shop is a much more inviting place to eat a meal. If Hotel Meridien's La Brasserie is the most elegant coffee shop in Kuwait, the Hilton's La Palma is surely the most luxurious. Every thought has been given to the guest's comfort from deep, roomy chairs and spacious tables to the clever use of angles, corners and pillars to give each table a feeling of privacy. The restaurant, which has views over the swimming pool, is decorated in attractive shades of aquamarine. A pretty bamboo gazebo, housing the buffet tables, is the focal point of the room. The arrangement of the food has been well thought out

so that guests can circulate freely to help themselves, rather than having to shuffle round in a tedious queue.

A dinner buffet is served from 7 pm. Guests can start the meal with soup then fill their plates from a mouthwatering selection of salads and appetisers. Freshness was the keynote of the whole meal from the newly baked French bread, giant, succulent Gulf prawns and creamy avocado filled with crab to the tender slices of smoked salmon. Herbs and seasoning had been skillfully used to give each salad an individual and distinctive taste, rather than the general "hotel" flavour one so often finds. There was a particularly good potato salad, some interesting terrines of fish and meat, finely shredded cheese and meat salads and a wide range of sauces, pickles and chutneys. The display was colourful and attractively presented.

#### Range

Although one could have made a meal of the salad buffet alone, it would have been a shame to miss the delights of the hot buffet. The range of dishes was impressive from Osso Buco — tender veal knuckles in a rich Italian tomato and herb sauce — to Saffron Mussels — delicious mussels in a delicately flavoured sauce. One could choose from Hamour with aromatic cardamom rice or Chicken Maryland with strips of beef bacon. The chef stood by ready

to carve succulent slices of sirloin or tasty shawarm. Often the vegetables served at hot buffets are a disappointment but the brussels sprouts, broccoli and cauliflower at the La Palma were kept in perfect condition. The aubergines stuffed with minced meat and Parmesan were especially delicious.

The high standards of the meal were maintained in the desserts. All of those we tasted were fresh and moist. Once again the variety stood out: from poppy seed cake, Irish coffee cake, strawberry gateau and chocolate mousse to bread-and-butter pudding, Arabic pastries, mubahabia, nut slices and fruit tarts. If all of this was not enough, there was a cheese board and one could finish the meal with tea or coffee.

The waiters were friendly and courteous, although they were slow to remove the dishes between courses. The only other flaw in the whole evening was the music — the acoustics of the restaurant made the piano unpleasantly loud, so that conversation was a strain.

**RESTAURANT:** La Palma  
**TYPE:** Coffee Shop of the Hilton Hotel

**MEAL:** Three course dinner buffet

**PRICE:** KD11 (for two)

**Star rating (out of five):**

**FOOD:** \*\*\*\*\*

**SERVICE:** \*\*\*\*\*

**ATMOSPHERE:** \*\*\*\*\*

**VALUE FOR MONEY:** \*\*\*\*\*



## CINEMA TODAY

**Al Andalus**  
Police Story  
Starring: Jackie Chan, Brigitte Lane  
Al Salmiya  
Jara Al Wuhoush (Arabic)  
Starring: Noor Al Shariff, Mahmoud Abdul Aziz, Noora  
Al Hamra  
Wa Yabqa Al Hub (Arabic)  
Starring: Farid Shawki, Suhair Ramzi  
Drive-In  
Ya Sadeeqi Kam Tasawi (Arabic)  
Starring: Farid Shawki, Safiya Al Omari  
Al Firdous  
Begonia (Hindi)  
Starring: Kumar Gaurav, Rati Agnihotri  
Fahad Open-Air  
Anjaam (Hindi)  
Al-Fahad  
Shah Darbar (Bengali)

**Al Jahra**  
Li'Adam Kifayah Al Adah (Arabic)  
Granada  
The Highest Honour  
Sulabikhat  
Nee Allenkil Njaan (Malayalam)  
Al Jeeb  
Khooni Mahal (Hindi)  
Ahmadi Drive-In  
Hasna'a Wa Amalaah (Arabic)  
**FRIDAY**  
Al Jahra  
Killer Fish  
Granada  
Anand (Hindi)  
Starring: Rajesh Khanna, Amitabh Bachchan  
Sulabikhat  
Snake in the Eagles Shadow  
Al Jeeb  
Naam-o-Nishan

### PRAYERS

Fajr	5.20 am
Zuhr	11.54
Asr	2.47 pm
Maghreb	5.05
Isha	6.27

### FRIDAY

Fajr	5.20 am
Zuhr	11.55
Asr	2.48 pm
Maghreb	5.06
Isha	6.28

## WHAT'S ON

### SOCIAL

**Konkani Drama**  
The new G.O.A. presents Freddy J. D'Costa's play "Khatia Pita Dev Dita" on Jan 14 (5.00 pm) and 15 (3.00 pm) and "Uta Goykara" on Jan 17 (3.00 pm). The troupe from Goa, including "Jacinto Vaz," will perform at the New Indian Arts Circle hall (Finattees). Transport available from City. Book your passes now at Raj's Stores.

**Cine Club**  
Kuwait Cine Club will hold an American Film Week from January 16. The film week, earlier planned from Jan 9, has been postponed due to technical problems.

**Canadian Women's League**  
A get-together will be held for Canadian ladies on Jan 9, 4 to 6 pm. For details contact Tel: 371 8678.

**Kapilku Elections**  
The Kapilung Pilipino Sa Kuwait (Kapilku) will hold the annual general meeting on Friday, Jan 8, at 2.30 pm, at the Philippines Embassy. During the meeting the constitution will be presented for ratification and new officers will be elected. All Filipino residents are requested to attend. Tel: 5634200 or Gil — 2422301.

**Piano Concert**  
German pianist Wolfran Lorenzen will give a recital on Jan 19 (8 pm) in the Grand Ballroom of the Kuwait Hilton. He will play works by Ravel, Schumann, Liszt and Chopin. For further details contact the hotel.

**Sargam Music Show**  
Sargam, a local group, will hold a music show at Mesilah Beach Hotel at 6.30 pm on Feb 3. A selection of popular Urdu, Hindi, Punjabi and English songs will be presented. Entertainment also includes fire dance, lava dance and a magic show. For details phone 3260455, 7 am to 3 pm.

## Indian ladies hold reception

THE Indian Ladies Club recently hosted a reception at the Continental Hotel for actress-director Aparna Sen, who was in Kuwait to attend the Indian Film Festival, organised by the Cine Club. Two films by Aparna Sen, 36, Chowringhee Lane and Paroma, were shown at the festival. Aparna, who started her career as an actress, turned to direction in early 1980s to "quench a thirst for better cinema." She has, so far, directed only two films, both of which have been well-received by the critics and public. Her next film is entitled "Sat" featuring Shabana Azmi in the role of a mute girl who becomes a victim of superstition. Picture shows Aparna Sen (third left) at the Ladies Club reception.

● All entries for the What's On Column can be telefaxed (22332) to Events Section, or hand delivered daily, except Thursday, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaiikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned entries will not be accepted.

### KLT

Kuwait Little Theatre, Ahmadi, are looking for pianists for a summer musical coming up in March. For further details call 3985246.

**Danielle**  
All Danes are invited to a second-hand sale from 10 am on Jan 10. For further details or if Danes want to join, call Marianne on 3948953 before Jan 9.

**Kuwait Cultural Centre**  
Dancers classes will be held shortly. For further details phone 2428362.

### HOTELS

**At the Meridien**  
Every Thursday, enjoy an evening of foot tapping music with Remy and Tony at the jam sessions in La Brasserie. Eat to the heat and enjoy fresh seafood buffet featuring exotic, classic, local and international cuisine.

Family fun on Fridays is provided in La Brasserie. Live music, video cartoons, water games, magician, free balloons.

## TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

### KTV 1

- 9.00 Holy Quran
- 9.15 Cartoons
- 10.00 Fi Rihab Tariya: an educational programme presented by Jassim Al Ghareh.
- 11.00 Songs
- 11.30 Islam Wal Insaan: "Islam and Man", new religious programme, hosted by Dr Abdul Suboor Al Shabin.
- 12.00 Ma Da'a Wa Anhamia Min Akhbar Jaban: Arabic serial, part one: starring Sheza Salem, Khalil Rifai, Mohammad Hussain Abdul Rahim.
- 1.00 News Summary
- 1.20 World News via Satellite
- 2.00 Liqa Al Khamis: roundup of local events
- 3.30 Hakim Al Aqzam: cartoons
- 4.00 News Summary
- 4.40 Persuaders: featuring

- Roger Moore
- 5.30 Children's programme
- 6.00 Alwan: presented by Rasha Magdi
- 7.00 News Summary
- 7.05 Show Jumping
- 7.30 Rahlat Fi Alam Majnun: Arabic serial. Starring: Issad Yunus, Ala Rami, Hassan Mustafa, Hussein Sharhuni
- 8.30 Wifa, Hussein Sharhuni: religious talk by Sheikh Salah Abu Ismael.
- 11.15 Friday Prayer
- 12.15 Min Wahi Al Ayaat Al Bayanat: religious serial.
- 1.00 News Summary
- 1.20 World News via Satellite
- 2.00 Preview of next week's programme on KTV
- 2.30 Hadith Deeni: religious talk by Sheikh Mohammad Mutwalli Sharawi.
- 3.15 Football: Kuwait vs Saudi Arabia; qualifier for 1988 Olympic Games. Live broadcast from Saudi Arabia.
- 5.45 INTERVAL
- 6.15 Kuwait in a Week
- 7.00 News Summary
- 7.10 Kul al Funoon: hosted by Rasha Magdi.
- 7.45 Weekly Seminar
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 10.00 Wrestling
- 10.45 Qulub Eind Al Marafi: Arabic play featuring Maryam Al Saleh, Huda Hussain, Ibrahim Al Harbi. A social series on the role of the family in Kuwait and Bahrain.
- 11.50 News Summary
- 11.55 World News Via Satellite
- 12.30 Holy Quran/Closedown

### FRIDAY

- 9.00 Holy Quran
- 9.30 Children's Magazine
- 10.00 News Summary
- 10.05 World News via Satellite
- 10.20 Hikayat Min Alam: Stories from Around the World.
- 11.00 Ahadith Mauduwa: religious talk by Sheikh Salah Abu Ismael.
- 11.15 Friday Prayer
- 12.15 Min Wahi Al Ayaat Al Bayanat: religious serial.
- 1.00 News Summary
- 1.20 World News via Satellite
- 2.00 Preview of next week's programme on KTV
- 2.30 Hadith Deeni: religious talk by Sheikh Mohammad Mutwalli Sharawi.
- 3.15 Football: Kuwait vs Saudi Arabia; qualifier for 1988 Olympic Games. Live broadcast from Saudi Arabia.
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- 11.50 News Summary
- 11.55 World News Via Satellite
- 12.30 Holy Quran/Closedown



Bill Cosby and Phylcia Ayers-Alen return with more comedy in The Bill Cosby Show, tonight at 9.30 pm on KTV 2.

### KTV 2

- 3.00 Holy Quran
- 3.10 Sports Studio: local and international football, basketball and volleyball matches.

## NIGHT CHEMIST

**Kuwait**  
Al Madina Pharmacy  
Nr. Science Museum,  
Abdullah Al Mubarak St.  
Al Ghazwa Pharmacy  
Kazemi Bldg, Khalid Bin Al Walid St.  
**Hawalli and Negra**  
Andalus Pharmacy  
Tunis St.  
**Salmiya and Rumathiya**  
Sima Pharmacy  
Baghdad St.  
**Fahad and Ahmadi**  
Al Sheba Pharmacy  
Late Sheikh Ahmad Al Jaber Bldg, F'heel  
**Farwaha**  
Al Munawar Pharmacy  
South Souk St.  
**Jahra**  
Al Noor Pharmacy  
Abdul Aziz Nasrullah Bldg, Matafi St.  
**FRIDAY**  
**Kuwait**  
Phoenix Pharmacy  
Phoenix Bldg., Fahad Al Salem St.  
Ibn Rushd Pharmacy  
Souk Al Kuwait Bldg., Souk Duriq  
**Hawalli and Negra**  
Al Rihab Pharmacy  
Rihab Complex, Tunis St.  
**Salmiya and Rumathiya**  
Al Rashid Pharmacy  
Amman St.  
**Fahad and Ahmadi**  
Al Fulaif Pharmacy  
Khalifa Fulaif Bldg., Makka St.  
**Jeeb Al Shiyooh**  
Palestine Pharmacy  
Munira Eid Al Rajae Bldg., Main St.  
**Jahra**  
Al Zahra Pharmacy  
New Souk

## FM Services

08.00-08.30 Easy Listening  
08.30-09.00 Easy Listening  
09.00-10.00 Songs and Music  
10.00-11.00 Country Western  
11.00-12.00 Songs and Music  
12.00-13.00 Easy Listening  
13.00-14.00 News  
14.00-15.00 Easy Listening  
15.00-16.00 Alam Al-Nagham- Classical Music  
16.00-17.00 Easy Listening  
17.00-18.00 Arabic Songs and Music  
18.00-19.00 Party Music  
19.00-20.00 Scene and Heard  
20.00-21.00 Party Music  
21.00-22.00 News  
22.00-23.00 Party Music  
23.00-24.00 Easy Listening  
24.00-02.00 Instrumental Listening  
**FRIDAY**  
08.00-08.30 Easy Listening  
08.30-09.00 Easy Listening  
09.00-10.00 Songs and Music  
10.00-11.00 Country Western  
11.00-12.00 Songs and Music  
12.00-13.00 Easy Listening  
13.00-14.00 News  
14.00-15.00 Easy Listening  
15.00-16.00 Classical Music  
16.00-17.00 Easy Listening  
17.00-18.00 Arabic Instrumental Music  
18.00-19.00 Pops  
19.00-20.00 International Top "20"  
20.00-21.00 Pops  
21.00-22.00 News  
22.00-23.00 Pops  
23.00-24.00 Easy Listening  
24.00-02.00 Instrumental Listening  
**English**  
Morning  
08.00 Opening  
08.02 Songs and Music  
08.05 The Spirit of Islam  
08.20 Songs and Music  
08.30 News  
08.40 Songs and Music  
08.45 Daily Programme  
09.00 Pop International  
09.30 Your Kind of Music  
10.00 Our Press Today  
10.05 Songs and Music  
11.00 The Hit Makers  
11.00 Closedown  
13.30 News on the FM service  
Evening  
21.00 Opening  
21.02 Songs and Music  
21.05 The Spirit of Islam  
21.20 Songs and Music  
21.30 News  
21.45 Point of View  
21.55 Songs and Music  
22.00 Understanding the Holy Quran  
22.15 Sounds of the Eighties  
22.45 Daily Programme  
23.00 The Way You Like It  
23.30 Startimes  
24.00 Closedown

## RADIO PROGRAMMES

**Friday**  
Morning  
08.00 Opening  
08.02 Songs and Music  
08.05 News  
08.10 News  
08.15 News  
08.20 Songs and Music  
08.25 Daily Programme  
09.00 Muslims around the World  
09.15 Songs and Music  
09.20 Kiddies Corner  
09.30 Songs and Music  
10.00 Singers and their songs  
11.00 Closedown  
13.30 News on the FM service  
Evening  
21.00 Opening  
21.02 Songs and Music  
21.05 The Spirit of Islam  
21.20 Songs and Music  
21.30 News  
21.45 Point of View  
21.55 Songs and Music  
22.00 The Friday Request  
24.00 Closedown

## BBC World Services

JAN 7, 14, 21, 28  
0000 World News  
0005 News about Britain  
15 Radio News  
30 Flying the Flag (ex 28th Two Cheers for January)  
0100 News Summary followed by Outlook  
30 Waveguide  
40 Book Choice  
45 The Story of English  
0200 World News  
0900 Commentary  
15 Network UK  
30 Assignment  
0300 World News  
0900 News about Britain  
15 The World Today  
30 7th Fundamentalist America: 14th Hounding the World; 21st Byron; 28th Rescuing the Rhine  
0400 Newsdesk  
30 Classical Record Review  
45 Reflections  
50 Financial News  
0500 World News  
0900 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary  
30 Peet's Choice  
45 The World Today  
0600 Newsdesk  
30 Time for Verse  
40 The Farthing World  
0700 World News  
0900 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary  
30 They Sold A Million  
45 Network UK  
0800 World News  
0900 Reflections  
15 Country Style  
30 John Peel  
0900 World News  
0900 British Press Review  
15 The World Today

30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup  
45 The Story of English  
1000 News Summary followed by Assignment  
30 Flying the Flag (ex 28th Two Cheers for January)  
1100 World News  
0900 News about Britain  
15 New Ideas  
25 A Letter from England  
30 Citizens  
1200 Radio Newsdesk  
15 Multitrack 2  
45 Sports Roundup  
1300 World News  
0900 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary  
30 Network UK  
45 Stuart Coleman's Record Hop  
1400 Outlook, opening with 5-Minute News  
45 Write On...  
1500 Radio Newsdesk  
15 The Pleasure's Yours  
1600 World News  
0900 Commentary  
15 Assignment  
45 The World Today  
1700 World News  
0900 A Letter from England  
15 Citizens  
45 Sports Roundup  
1800 Newsdesk  
30 Discovery  
1900 Outlook, opening with News Summary  
30 Stock Market Report  
45 Here's Humph!  
2000 World News  
0900 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary  
30 Meridian  
2100 News Summary  
15 Followed by Talking From...  
15 Jolly Good Show  
2200 World News  
0900 The World Today  
25 A Letter from England  
30 Financial News  
40 Reflections  
45 Sports Roundup  
2300 World News  
0900 Commentary  
15 Seven Seas  
30 Time for Verse  
40 The Farming World  
**Friday**  
JAN 1, 8, 15, 22, 29  
0000 World News  
0900 News about Britain  
15 Radio Newsdesk  
30 Music Now  
0100 News Summary followed by Outlook  
30 Stuart Coleman's Record Hop  
45 Talking From...  
0200 World News  
0900 Commentary  
15 Health Matters  
30 John Peel  
0300 World News  
0900 News about Britain  
15 The World Today

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## ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

PEOPLE generally quarrel because they cannot argue  
— Gilbert Chesterton, English writer (1874—1936).OPINION  
Israel's back  
will be broken

THE price that France paid in Algeria will be paid by Israel in Palestine. France occupied Algeria and considered it a part of France, and now the Israeli Army in Palestine is the same as the French Army was in Algeria many years ago.

The stubbornness of France went so far as to include the kidnapping of Algerian resistance movement leaders, which only intensified their resistance activities. Later came the torture of the Algerian girl, Jamila, which in itself may have seemed insignificant, but when added to other issues, represented the straw that broke the camel's back. Israel is playing the same role — in the end its back will be broken.

What we have to say now is let Israel continue with its atrocities and obstinate actions, which will ignite the fire the Palestinian lands have needed for over 40 years. These actions will move the Palestinians away from the soft diplomatic atmosphere which has proven ineffective in freeing the Palestinians and restoring their homeland. This atmosphere is simply one of dinner parties and the exchange of kisses without occasion.

Israel has now dug its own grave — a reality we have waited for over 40 years.

Algeria was liberated not by the revolution from within the country — only by tanks positioned along the borders. It was liberated by fire, stones, Molotov cocktails (bombs) and martyrs from the occupied Algerian territories.

The Palestinian people living outside of Palestine must feel proud of their brothers in Palestine, especially when they see the US, that arrogant superpower, stand for the first time in six years, against Israel in the United Nations Security Council and reject the expulsion of Palestinian youths from their homeland. These are the youths who revolted against the atmosphere of the elegant military uniforms and the romance of official parties.

Israel has committed a historical mistake, which Zionists frequently do in any country they occupy. It is their greed and stubborn sucking of human blood for God's so-called "chosen people." Israel has committed the deadly mistake which we have waited for 40 years, and because of this we say let Israel continue to kill women and children. This is the price that will end the dream of Hertzl and his commandments.

Finally, may Allah have mercy on the martyrs of Palestine — freedom requires blood and this is their fate.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

Chinese intellectuals  
hope for better days

By Andrew Roche

BEIJING. (Reuters): China's long-suffering intellectuals, cowed into timidity by hardline ideologues during the year of the rabbit, are hoping for better things in 1988 — the year of the dragon.

No one expects the writers, theorists and artists to begin breathing fire just yet. But the fall from influence of key leftists and the withering of 1987's campaign against Western political ideas has at least left them breathing easier.

Some of the most prominent "bourgeois liberal" victims of the campaign are emerging from their burrows. At least one appears bent on settling scores with his former tormentors.

Writer Wang Ruoshui, asked to leave the Communist Party in August, is currently circulating a highly popular pamphlet which eloquently attacks the campaign, Chinese sources said.

Astrophysicist Fang Lizhi, quoted this year as saying "Marxism is no longer of much use," and investigative journalist Liu Binyan, expelled from the party and vilified publicly 11 months ago, might even be appointed to a top government advisory body soon, Chinese sources said.

Even thoroughly establishment figures now appear willing to criticise the "bourgeois liberal" drive.

"We have had a 'spring chill'... intellectuals are very sensitive, they have suffered a lot. A spring chill can affect your eventual harvest," veteran cultural official Xia Yan told an interviewer in the latest edition of Outlook magazine.

**Lacklustre**  
Prominent writers say 1987's crop of literature has been the most lacklustre for years, as authors withdrew or watered down writings that could be accused of "bourgeois liberal" tendencies.

Even the official government New China News Agency described the year's literary atmosphere as "rather depressed."

Officially, the campaign is still in progress. But the tide, now directed by reformist party leader Zhao Ziyang, has turned.

Deng Liqun and Hu Qiaomu, the main champions of the drive to root out suspect intellectuals, were voted out of their party posts at October's party congress.

Chinese sources say their allies could soon follow. He Jingzhi, nicknamed "The Dog" among Chinese writers in 1987 as the man who "bit" unorthodox thinkers, will soon be replaced as deputy head of the party's propaganda department, informed sources said.

They said his department head, Wang Renzhi, might also be in danger.

Red Flag magazine, a dusty fortnightly established by Chairman Mao nearly 30 years ago as the party's ideological organ and regarded as a leftist base camp, is threatened with closure next year, according to Chinese sources.

The fate of the often turgid, massively subsidised magazine was sealed at a meeting earlier this year in which, according to one academic, party leader Zhao said: "I don't read it. Who needs it?"

**Stress**  
In recent speeches, Zhao has stressed the importance of science, technology and education more than ideology, and newspapers have called for better treatment and respect for academics.

"It is a practical question. We cannot make progress if the brightest people are too afraid to speak up," one Chinese journalist said.

There is talk in the Chinese media of a press law to encourage greater freedom of debate.

The signs do not yet add up to a cultural spring, the journalist said. "We are still in a cage, but the cage is getting bigger," he added — and asked not to be identified.

The front page of a recent issue of People's Daily called on China's thinkers to "liberate their minds" and "let one hundred flowers bloom, and one hundred schools of thought contend."

The slogan was first coined by chairman Mao in 1957 to encourage intellectual debate, and is tainted by the mass imprisonments of those who took it literally, spoke their minds, and were subsequently imprisoned.

## Judge asks for confessions

## Quick trials in Israeli courts

By Karin Laub

NABLUS. Occupied West Bank. (AP): A military judge presiding over the trials of accused Arab rioters repeatedly told defendants Tuesday he would reward quick confessions with lighter sentences.

Defence lawyers said such exhortations are symptomatic of an unjust legal system seeking to rush through hundreds of cases piled up following mass arrests in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Army officials have denied allegations of summary justice.

"It's not unusual for a judge to tell a defendant that a confession would be a factor in the amount of punishment imposed," said Amos Guiora, a military prosecutor in Ramallah. "It's not a threat that he will get a harsher sentence, God forbid."

Guiora said charges have been brought against about 500 defendants of Nablus, the largest city. He said one was acquitted and 30 to 40 sentenced. In Ramallah, 48 detainees were charged, but none was tried, he said.

The remainder were given trial dates to allow both sides to present witnesses. Army officials said. More than 200 detainees have been released.

US government observers and Israeli civil rights activists who attended some of the trials said they believed that they were fair.

About 40 Palestinians, most in their teens and 20s, were brought from Atili prison in northern Israel to the military court in the West Bank city of Nablus.



Palestinians awaiting trial

The defendants, who wore dark blue prison uniforms, sat eight rows deep on the right side of the small courtroom, while about 30 women in traditional Arab dress filled the benches on the left.

Some spectators whispered words of encouragement to the defendants, while others passed scribbled notes and tissues. About 100 relatives waited outside the court despite heavy rain-fall.

During a three-hour session Tuesday, Judge Yehoshua Halevy postponed or scheduled for trial eight cases, often acting at the request of the defence.

Sentenced three defendants who pleaded guilty to throwing stones. Two 15-year-old boys were given prison terms for two months and the third, also a teen-

ager, was sentenced to three months. Each was also given a one-year suspended sentence and fined 200 shekels.

The International Commission of Jurists in Geneva has published affidavits of security prisoners who complained, among other things, of being beaten and subjected to extremely hot or cold showers.

Army officials have denied allegations of systematic torture, but acknowledged that isolated cases of mistreatment might have occurred.

Dudu Yahav, the Army's legal adviser in the West Bank, said judges immediately investigate complaints of mistreatment.

Defence lawyers also said that since the mass arrests began last month, their working conditions have deteriorated sharply because of confusion in the court system.

Lawyer Omar Bayadse said in some cases files are lost, defendants are not brought to court on their trial date and prison officials can't tell lawyers where their clients are being held.

"It's chaos," Bayadse said. On Monday, one case had to be postponed because the file could not be found.

To protest the conditions, lawyers in the West Bank and Gaza have gone on strike, saying they would not represent detainees arrested after the rioting began Dec. 8. Some of the cases heard Monday concerned incidents before that date.

Army officials acknowledged that there was some confusion initially because of the large number of cases. But Guiora said a special office has been set up to field inquiries from lawyers.

## Mitterrand's stocks soaring

By Alan Philips

PARIS. (Reuters): At an age when most public figures write their memoirs, French President Francois Mitterrand is discovering a new political youth as his supporters nudge him to run for a second seven-year term.

An unlikely coalition of singers, writers and sportsmen recently joined a chorus of appeals for the 71-year-old Socialist leader to join the race for the 1988 presidential elections, only four months away.

"Mimi, don't abandon us," was the theme of the petition, published in the monthly magazine Globe and signed by 57 cultural, sporting and media figures and a rock band.

Supporters of the initiative range from fashion designer Azzedine Alaia, to footballer Dominique Roche and France's most popular actor, Gerard Depardieu.

Mitterrand, who refuses to be hurried into announcing a decision, denies he has anything to do with their initiative.

"I'm very touched, but I was not consulted in advance, so I retain complete freedom of action," Mitterrand told a television interviewer.

**Prestige**  
Five hundred mayors and other elected representatives, meanwhile, bought newspaper advertising space to declare of Mitterrand: "He's the one for us."

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The slogan was first coined by chairman Mao in 1957 to encourage intellectual debate, and is tainted by the mass imprisonments of those who took it literally, spoke their minds, and were subsequently imprisoned.

Mitterrand has said he does not want to stay in the Elysee Palace until he is 78, but has hinted that "exceptional circumstances" might force him into the fray.

With any other politician, the initiatives might have looked like a cheap stunt, but Mitterrand's soaring prestige appears to have put him beyond the reach of his enemies.

**Miraculous**  
His comeback is all the more astounding as his Socialist peers were voted out of office in March 1986 by a disgruntled electorate.

He handed over the reins of government to his arch rival, Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, who heads a centre-right administration pledged to undo much of the Socialist's work.

But his elevation to the role of arbiter above the burly burly of everyday politics has boosted his personal standing.

According to a year-end opinion poll, Mitterrand would beat all comers if he were to stand in the two-round presidential election, to be held in April and May.

He increased his support to 53.5 per cent, compared with 46.5 per cent for the top challenger, centre-right politician Raymond Barre. A contest with Chirac would be a walkover for Mitterrand.

Right-wing strategists are wringing their hands and wondering how it is that the aloof and literary president, whose first ministerial post dates from 1947,

near-riots among lawmakers. In 1977 some 4,000 police marched on police headquarters in a display of anger over investigations. Several ICAC members were injured when police grappled with them in another protest.

**Recruits**  
Unable to fully trust the local police, many early ICAC recruits were drawn from British police forces and former military security personnel.

The ICAC is set apart from the civil service, and answers directly to the colony's governor. It has three divisions: operations, corruption prevention and community relations.

About 300 investigators work in operations, while the other departments either offer advice on preventing corruption or seek to educate the public against graft.

The ICAC now pervades many aspects of life in the colony. Television films made for the commission show fearful young children watching their fathers being driven off to jail for corruption.

Clad in prison stripes, the offenders ask themselves why they took the money amid the sounds of slamming cell doors

that police advised us to come back the next day with the boys who caused the trouble. The attitude of the police baffled me, particularly as the government is trying to curb such practices.

**Nightmarish experience**  
SIR: Recently I read an article on vandalism in Kuwait. Last week, we went through a nightmarish experience.

My friend and I were walking on the street in Maidan Hawalli when some teenagers, obviously in a boisterous mood, were breaking street lamps and made snide remarks and threw stones at us. We had to escape from there and seek shelter in the nearby Maidan Hawalli police station. The worst part of the whole story is

Mitterrand: comeback  
seen as the man to take France into the 1990s.

The right-wing Figaro newspaper lamented that Mitterrand had become a new Sun King — the title of King Louis XIV.

"For strange reasons which have to be analysed, Mitterrand has suddenly become a 'great man' who attracts all the benefits of power and none of the evils," it noted bitterly.

**Backfire**  
Chirac's RPR party tried to dent Mitterrand's image by calling him "Gaga." But the campaign backfired as the President appears in robust health and on top of his job.

Right-wing critics then highlighted Mitterrand's alleged role in France's so-called "Irangate" scandal in which 500,000 artillery shells were sold to Iran by the previous Socialist government.

Mitterrand admits he was tipped off about the sales, but has shrugged off responsibility, saying the president's functions are too lofty to deal with arms trafficking.

Pressure is mounting on Mitterrand to run as he is probably the only chance for the left to stop a rightist returning to the Elysee Palace.

The Socialists have a host of second-rank figures waiting to run, but only former Agriculture Minister Michel Rocard, a party outsider, is credited with any chances against the right.

Sources close to the President say he has not yet decided whether to run, but in any case would not announce his decision before the end of February or beginning of March.

The web of uncertainty which he has woven over his intentions has served him well, boosting his popularity and saving him from an early lame duck fate if he decides to retire.

**Master**  
But it is not so well received on the left. Socialist leaders fear that the party may exhaust itself in internal strife while it waits for Mitterrand to make up his mind.

A master of timing with a fine sense of history, Mitterrand is unlikely to be hurried.

If he decides to write his memoirs this year, he can be sure of a place in history as the first Socialist president of France since General de Gaulle established the Fifth Republic in 1958.

US walking  
a tightrope

By Carol Giacomo

WASHINGTON. (Reuters): The United States is trying to walk a fine line in its response to Israel's violent handling of Palestinian protests in the occupied territories, analysts say.

To remain silent would suggest that Washington condones the use of force that has killed 25 Palestinians since riots erupted on Dec. 9, the worst in 20 years of Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

But to criticise Israel too loudly and too often could spark a backlash that might severely damage relations between Washington and one of its closest allies, the analysts said.

The United States renewed criticism of Israel on Tuesday as fresh violence in the occupied territories took the life of a 25th Palestinian.

**Backing**  
On Monday, State Department spokesman Charles Redman had welcomed what he said was reduced violence in the occupied territories and indicated Israel had moderated its use of force toward Palestinian protesters.

But on Tuesday the United States backed a UN resolution calling on Israel not to deport nine Palestinians it has accused of inciting violence and Redman said Israel's deportation plan violated the 1949 Geneva Convention.

Redman and White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said the United States had not backed away from its Monday position.

"What you've seen is a moderate expression" of US concern for Israel's approach to the situation, said William Quandt, a Middle East expert with the private Brookings Institution.

Quandt agreed the United States, which provides Israel with \$3 billion in aid a year, has a

responsibility to speak out against Israel's use of lethal force and its plans to deport Palestinians accused of inciting the protests.

He argued that "The real underlying problem is that the prospect for a political breakthrough in the Middle East peace process is really gone" for the next few years.

In the past, moderate older Palestinians in the occupied areas could temper young people's rage by "holding out hope that something might happen on the political front," he said.

Now, progress towards Middle East peace appears unlikely with President Reagan in his last year in office and so much interest focused on superpower arms control, he said.

Other analysts said many other factors dissuaded Washington from bearing down too strongly on Israel, especially in public.

One is the reluctance of political candidates to risk angering American Jewish voters — a formidable political bloc — during an election year.

Another is what some analysts perceive as Secretary of State George Shultz's reluctance to risk his high standing with American Jewish and Israeli Jewish communities.

**Told**  
US officials said the American position has been communicated to Israel in frequent private contacts, as well as in public statements.

One official, who asked not to be identified, said Arab governments repeatedly "have made known (to Washington) their really strong feelings" about Israel's handling of the protests.

"We object to the lethal use of force and to deportations and we are hopeful that this issue can be resolved peacefully and through negotiations," White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater, said on Tuesday.

Mubarak will  
reiterate support

By Maurice Guindl

CAIRO. (AP): President Hosni Mubarak is touring six Arab nations next week to strengthen a diplomatic reconciliation and seek consensus on the region's hottest issues, the Iran-Iraq war and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Egyptian officials said such a consensus would strengthen Mubarak's position when he visits Washington in late January for talks with President Ronald Reagan and other leaders.

Mubarak's Jan 9-16 tour will take him to Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman, all considered moderate and friendly to the US.

**Support**  
All except Oman restored diplomatic ties with Cairo in November after an eight-year break caused by Egypt's peace treaty with Israel in 1979. Oman never broke relations. They were among nine Arab League members who resumed relations after an Arab summit in Jordan. After that summit, League members were free to restore individual relations with Egypt.

One Egyptian official said the tour will show Iran that Egypt, the strongest Arab military power, will support its Arab brothers around the Gulf against Iranian threats. The official spoke on condition of anonymity.

All countries on Mubarak's itinerary border the Gulf, and Kuwait has been the target of at least seven Iranian missile attacks in recent months.

Government sources said Cairo will continue to follow its

peace treaty with Israel despite opposition by its Arab neighbours.

"We never apologised for the treaty and we don't now, after the diplomatic boycott has ended," a diplomatic source said.

Nevertheless, Egypt has sharply condemned Israel's crackdown on the Palestinian protests, in which Israeli says 24 rioters were killed.

But sources said no diplomatic sanctions are planned beyond an official protest Cairo already has made to Israel.

Rifaat El Mabgoub, the Parliament Speaker and a senior member of Mubarak's party, outlined the position after an opposition demand that diplomatic ties with Israel be cut or at least that Egypt's ambassador be withdrawn from Tel Aviv and Israeli's expelled from Cairo.

**Conference**  
"The issue is not one of recalling an ambassador or expelling one," El-Mabgoub told the People's Assembly. "Our aim is to convene an international conference, and we presently should not take any measures that would give the other side (Israel) a chance to block such a conference. We should exercise restraint."

The Israeli government already is divided on the conference issue. Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir strongly opposes the idea.

The government sources said Mubarak wants to convince the United States of an urgent need for it to be more actively involved in organising an international conference.

Unwarranted  
delaySIR: The Civil ID card could become the "card of the future" and replace all other cards now in use. The mail-box system facilitating renewal of cards due to change of residence is very effective. The work done by Paci is commendable. But there is still a minor problem in an otherwise perfect system introduced by Paci for issuing the Civil ID card.

At present it takes two to three hours to collect new cards from Paci offices located at the Ministries Complex. A large number of people gather at the office and wait patiently to get their cards. After the long wait, we discover that it takes only a few minutes to receive the card due to the efficient service provided by the counter staff, who check details and hand over the card and receipt.

As most people go to collect the card during office hours delay is unwarranted.

Would Paci review the problem and find a quicker way to approach the counter staff to complete formalities?

James P. Charles, Safat.

Nightmarish  
experience

SIR: Recently I read an article on vandalism in Kuwait. Last week, we went through a nightmarish experience.

My friend and I were walking on the street in Maidan Hawalli when some teenagers, obviously in a boisterous mood, were breaking street lamps and made snide remarks and threw stones at us. We had to escape from there and seek shelter in the nearby Maidan Hawalli police station. The worst part of the whole story is

Keep to  
schedules

SIR: I request KTV2 to show some of the Indian films, which were shown at the Indian Film Festival, held from Dec 12 to 30.

Please show 36 Chowringhe Lane, Shatranj Ke Khiladi, New Delhi Times, Khandhar, Masoom, Kagaz Ke Phool and Sara Akash.

KTV had several times, announced they would show an Indian film, Mr Natwarlal, and later cancelled it without so much as an apology from KTV.

At last the film was recently shown. Why can't programmes keep to schedules and timings?

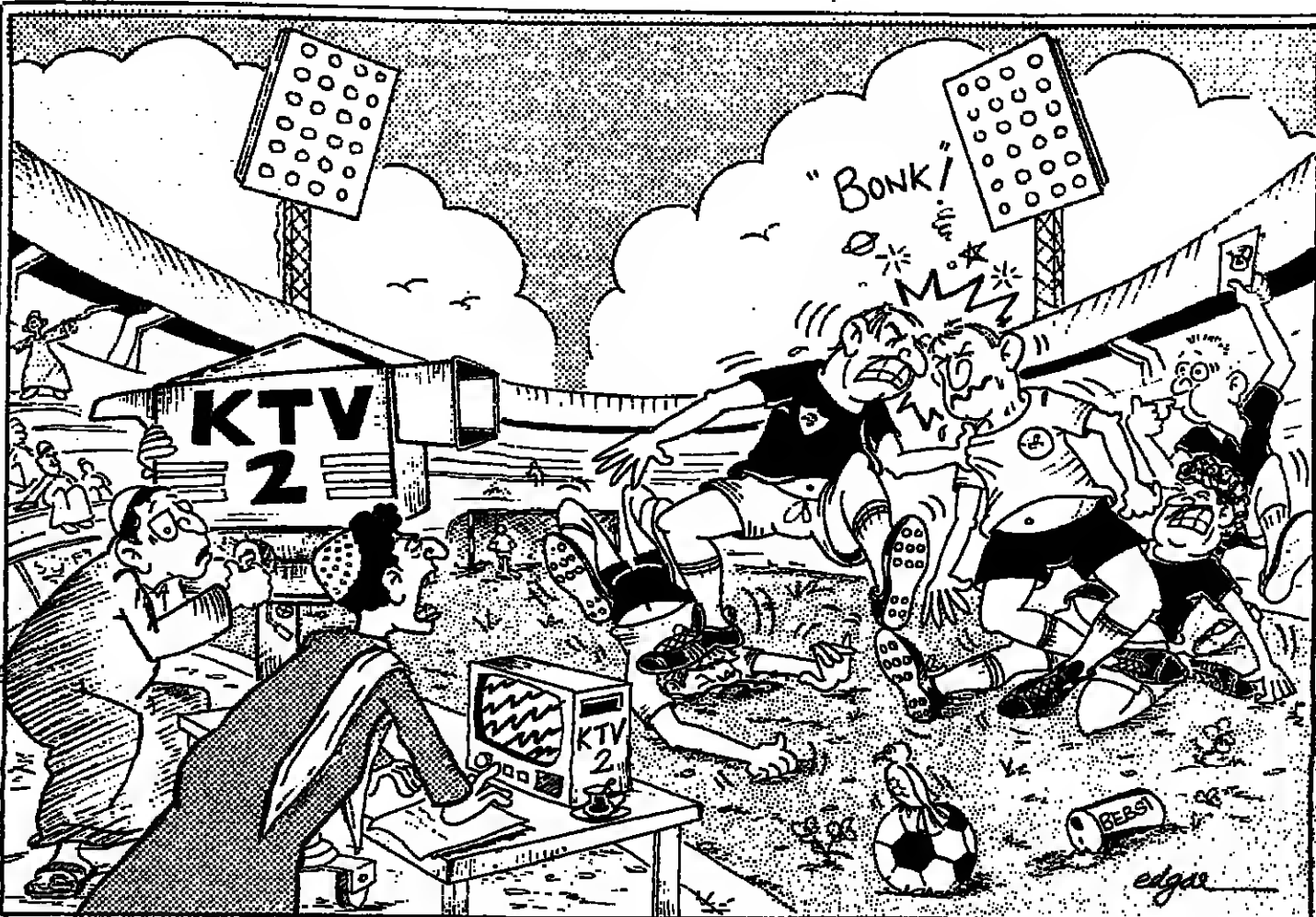
Maqbool Butt, Safat.

ALL letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1537 — Alesandro de Medici is assassinated and Cosmo de Medici succeeds him in Florence.
- 1558 — French capture Calais from British.
- 1598 — Boris Godunov seizes Russian throne on death of Feodor I.
- 1622 — Holly Roman Emperor Ferdinand II and Gabor Bethlen of Transylvania sign peace treaty.
- 1761 — Afghans defeat Marathas at Panipat in India.
- 1807 — Britain declares blockade of coasts of France and Napoleon Bonaparte's allies.
- 1932 — United States protests Japanese aggression in China.
- 1937 — Poland signs agreement with Danzig.
- 1961 — African charter is issued at Casablanca by African heads of state.
- 1967 — Fighting is reported between Chinese Red Guards and workers in Nanjing.
- 1968 — Government of Lebanon resigns after Israeli commando raid at Beirut airport.
- 1972 — India resists US pressure and grants full diplomatic recognition to China.
- 1973 — Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos suspends scheduled plebiscite on new constitution, saying his country is slipping back into subversion and corruption.
- 1987 — Lebanon's former President Camille Chamoun suffers minor wounds when remote-control car bomb explodes near his bullet-proof car.





By Keith Wells

## Oh no! not again

A BLOOD-CURDLING scream from the living room, I dropped everything and dashed in there expecting to find someone had strangled the wife. She was sitting stiff as a board on the sofa, her eyes glazed in terminal boredom. The scream echoed out again, I spun round in alarm but soon realised what it was, another local football match on the telly.

The scream was merely the shy, retiring announcer's way of letting us know that some inter-galactic genius had just kicked a ball of hot air between two white sticks.

Of course, he had to announce such a cosmic event at the very loudest possible volume just in case anyone should miss it. I try very hard to miss it, but he usually manages to let me know about it even if I'm in the next apartment block.

Why on earth should they show us this garbage night after night after night, particularly when the stadium where this vitally, crucially, earth-shakingly important event is taking place is already crammed with a vast seething, cheering, howling mob of six or seven people and a stray cat? If that's the

amount of people who actually care enough about the game to bother to go to the stadium, why make half a million of the rest of us suffer too?

And that announcer! One day some benevolent philanthropist will sneak up on him and slit his vocal chords with a blunt and rusty cutlass and cure half a million headaches with one brief chop. Is the man actually mad? Certainly raving bananas! It sounds like it to me, and I think KTV should do the humane thing, put him in a cage somewhere quiet with a pile of videos of grown men running about in their underwear kicking a leather bag all over the place and let him scream the place down. But please, please, don't let him into my living room with his crazed howls of ecstatic delight every time his little friends in blue vests and white knickers manage to score.

Not that they ever score very many, usually only two or three per game, whereas Ivan Lendl regularly gets forty and even Galtling sometimes gets as many as a hundred when he isn't busy trying to be like John McEnroe.

I suppose I should confess, I

don't really care for sport very much. It's all balls to me, little ones, big ones, hard ones, every game except chess seems to involve walloping the hell out of someone's balls.

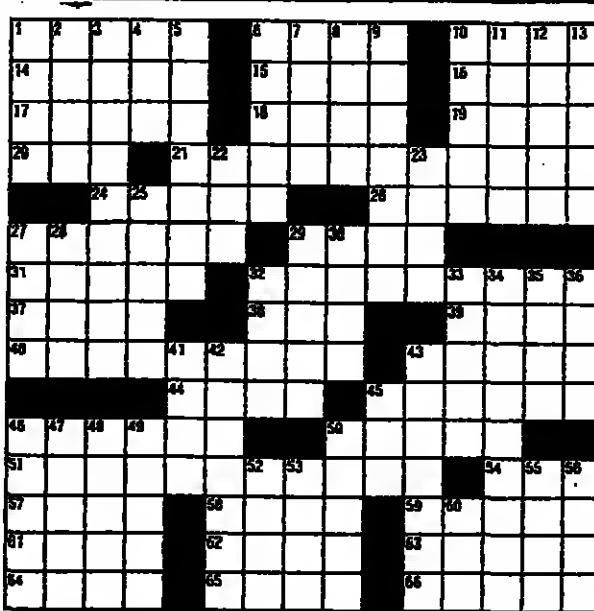
To my way of thinking they could get the whole thing over with much more quickly if they simply got together and did it all in one go instead of having all these separatist games and events. Just think, the World Cup, Wimbledon and the Test Match could all be played on one nice big pitch. Some of them could wear vests and knickers and kick the ball, Ivan and his mates could wallop it with rackets and Galtling and Co could waddle about in their crash helmets and leggings armed with bats, swatting umpires. When it's all over, they could give the winners some fancy great cups, saucers too if it'd make me happy! I'm sure it'd be a great success then we could all forget about the whole nasty business for another year.

But I've wandered off the subject, which was the local football matches. The other thing that really annoys me is how sneaky they are about getting these things on telly. They

pretend it's a children's programme, or a film you've wanted to see since childhood, or the next part in a gripping serial. Poor old KTV agree to show the programme, then, before they know what's happened, 'King Lear' or 'Tom and Jerry' or 'The Life of Marilyn Monroe' turns out to be twenty two half-dressed loonies running all around a big empty stadium while the htraidamaged commentator goes 'YAAAAARRGGHH. YAAAAARRGGHH. YAAAAARRGGHH. YAAAAARRGGHH!' Poor old KTV, they are obviously trying so hard to give us decent programmes to watch, but these wicked maniacs keep tricking them every time.

Another thing I don't understand is the six or seven fanatics who have actually bothered to go to the stadium to watch these strange antics. Who are they? They're all wearing white, so perhaps they're part of the medical staff at the asylum from which the rest of them have evidently escaped. Whoever they are, I just wish they would round the others up, put them in a nice armoured truck and take them back where they belong. Let them kick each other and scream to their hearts content, but don't make the rest of us watch, it's too painful.

## TODAY'S CROSSWORD



### ACROSS

- 1 Polish
- 6 Fast short
- 10 Little rascals
- 14 Doric's relative
- 15 Sufficient, to a post
- 16 Neighbor of Phoenix
- 17 Haircut style
- 18 Realtor's offering
- 19 Spill the beans
- 20 Numerical suffix
- 21 Quickly
- 24 Dark wood
- 26 Structural supports
- 27 Shoe part
- 29 Positive reply, Spanish style
- 31 Pumpkins at all
- 32 Precisely
- 37 Chimney
- 38 Sweep's concern
- 39 Differ or confer and/or
- 40 At loggerheads
- 43 Some statistics
- 44 Decline to bid
- 45 Powerful
- 46 Buffoon
- 50 Hidden store
- 51 Aboveboard
- 54 Youth org.
- 57 Close
- 58 "Buddha-brooks" author
- 59 Sphere

### DOWN

- 1 Taunt
- 2 Bumpkin
- 3 In trouble
- 4 "— samper tyrannus": Va. motto
- 5 Shoals of fish
- 6 Substantive
- 7 Part of a foot
- 8 Peeved
- 9 Like Greta Garbo
- 10 Infuse
- 11 Kind of toast
- 12 Sacred song
- 13 Gluts
- 22 Compass pt.
- 23 Theater award
- 25 Kiosk
- 27 — facto
- 28 Inert gas
- 29 Fits of pique
- 30 Natives of Suffolk
- 32 Great work
- 33 Paddock sound
- 34 With it
- 35 Cleo Laina specialty
- 36 Slippery
- 41 Dueler's foil
- 42 Flower

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF  
THE PART IS EQUAL TO THE WHOLE

Both vulnerable. West deals.

**NORTH**  
♠ J  
♥ A 6 5 2  
♦ Q J 10 8 4  
♣ 9 7 3

**WEST**  
♠ 8 6  
♥ J 10 4  
♦ A K 7 3  
♣ A Q 10 6

**EAST**  
♠ 4 2  
♥ Q K 9 7 3  
♦ 9 6  
♣ 8 5 4 2

**SOUTH**  
♠ A K Q 10 9 7 5 3  
♥ 8  
♦ 5 2  
♣ K J

The bidding:

West	North	East	South
1♦	Pass	1♥	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: King of ♦

For a strip and end play to succeed, you usually have to eliminate the key suit or suits completely. However, British author Albert Dornier discovered many years ago that you can work a partial strip successfully.

Four spades was a popular contract when this hand was played in a duplicate pair event. At almost every table, West led a high diamond, then shifted to the jack of hearts. Declarer sooner or later led a club toward his hand and tried to guess the position. As the cards lay, much anguish was expended on a no-win situation, and declarer ended up losing two tricks in each minor.

At one table, declarer brought home the contract, and there was nothing the defenders could do about it—it was simply a matter of excellent technique reaping its just reward.

Declarer won the ace of hearts and immediately ruffed a heart. After crossing to the jack of trumps, he ruffed another heart. Then he drew trumps and exited with a diamond.

Upon winning the ace of diamonds, West was faced with a prospect of losing plays. He had no more major-suit cards, and a diamond lead obviously was death. But a club shift was no better—it insured that declarer lost no more than one club trick.

Note that this line did not guarantee success. The hearts might have been 4-4, in which case West would still have had a safe exit. But the odds favored a 5-3 break, and the fact that East had bid the suit enhanced that prospect. And the club finesse, in light of the opening bid, was at best an iffy proposition.



## THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



## B.C.

By Johnny Hart



## YOUR STARS

<b>Aries (March 20 - April 18)</b> <p>Today you will be better able to deal with a personal matter. Do not think it is too late to learn, it never is. Do not blame others for your own mistakes. Be prompt.</p>	<b>Cancer (June 21 - July 21)</b> <p>Today you will be able to get things done, only you must not try to do too much all at once. You should make sure you do not ignore a rather unpleasant detail. Do not allow your enthusiasm to flag. Be selective.</p>	<b>Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)</b> <p>You should do all you can to maintain your inner peace of mind. Do not worry, things are not nearly as bad as they seem. Your skill and intelligence will stand you in good stead. Be a little more cautious.</p>	<b>Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan 19)</b> <p>You should make sure that you maintain a proper balance between income and expenditure. Work hard but without entirely neglecting your private life. You must avoid eating too many sweet or starchy foods. Be polite.</p>
<b>Taurus (April 19 - May 19)</b> <p>A tendency to be a little on the lethargic side should be resisted. You would be wrong to rest on your laurels. Do not waste any time but do not be in too great a hurry either. Be less severe.</p>	<b>Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)</b> <p>You will have to make sure you do not do anything that would be injurious to your health. You will have to accept a few restraints, but they will prove to have been worthwhile. Make sure you take regular gentle exercise. Be compassionate.</p>	<b>Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)</b> <p>You should not try to use force nor should you attempt to skim over the surface. You would do better to listen to others rather than the sound of your own voice. A little more patience is what is needed right now. Be fair.</p>	<b>Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)</b> <p>Something that should be done now must not be postponed. You should take a good care of your health and not neglect any infection. An obstacle must not be minimized or should it be exaggerated. Be meticulous.</p>
<b>Gemini (May 20 - June 20)</b> <p>There is nothing to be lost just now by being a little more generous. Make sure you do not wait for others to make the first move. Try to leave as little as possible to chance. Be reflective.</p>	<b>Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)</b> <p>You should not allow yourself to be distracted. Make sure you do not overtake yourself. There is no point in trying to evade your responsibilities. Be more approachable.</p>	<b>Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)</b> <p>You have no time to waste nor must you dissipate your energies. Have little more faith in yourself and confidence in others. Make sure you do not believe all you hear or that all is as you would like it to be. Be magnanimous.</p>	<b>Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)</b> <p>You will tend to mistake something that is not very important for something that is. You would do well to devote a little more time and effort to what it is you are learning. Make sure you act the age you are. Be generous.</p>

## The Art Buchwald Column

### Thanks for what?

sister and ask her if she knows whether they received it or not," Ethel suggested.

"Ah, the heck with it. If they're going to behave like ingrates I say we write off the ant farm as a bad investment," Tom told her.

"I still think they didn't get it. Loretta would be the first to sit down and send a thank-you note," Ethel said.

"Then how come we never heard from her when we gave their daughter a shower curtain for her wedding?" Tom asked.

"We never heard from Loretta's daughter. The bride is supposed to thank us for the gift, not the bride's mother."

"Everything is 'gimme' with the Blauvelts. The rotten thing is he makes more money than I do."

"I have an idea," Ethel declared. "Why don't we drop in on them, and while you keep them occupied I'll scout around and see if the ant farm is anywhere. Then at least we'll know if they got it or not."



breathe, I had forgotten we sent you anything... You don't have to say you like it if you don't. It's a silly little present, but I thought you would be amused every time you saw the ants digging out of the sand... You don't have to gush. Tom and I never expect anyone to acknowledge our Christmas presents. We give for joy, not for thanks."

1988, Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

## ANDY CAPP

By Smith





## CINE ROUND-UP FROM BOMBAY

by Firoze Rangoonwalla

Special to the  
Arab Times

Despite floods, droughts and even a 55-day cinema strike

## Any time is party-time in filmland

ONCE again, the film industry had a fresh round of "muhurats", parties and functions. New films were started, new cassettes and disc albums were released, birthdays and marriages were held. And for each occasion there was a party to celebrate in a big way.

In normal times, such luxury could be passed off as part of show biz. But the country has just encountered a severe drought in many regions, while other parts suffered from floods. Newspapers brought grim stories of human endurance. The government also declared austerity measures.

But our film folks seemed to be least bothered, not even about their own calamities. In entire North India, a cinema strike was held for 55 days between October and December. All 850 theatres remained closed, and the loss of revenue to the industry and of taxes to the state government ran into crores of rupees.

Yet there was not even proper unity within the different sectors. Theatres in Delhi kept running. And when rallies were arranged in Lucknow, very few stars attended.

But in Bombay it was pleasure as usual. Champagne corks popped and tables were stacked with food. It is a big irony that while the strike was going on, there were *muhurats* of almost 55 films, which meant that one new film per day had been started. Following that there was little progress, and some films were scrapped soon after the launching. It seems that a new bunch of investors, ie. building contractors and diamond or gold merchants are entering the industry to launder their black money, please clients in business and then disappear. And that some big producers are in league with them.



Dharmendra presents a trophy to Mandakini at the Hnkumat jubilee party.

The fresh round of parties began in mid-October, reached a climax recently and nobody knows when it will end. Among the most recent was the starting of *Shehzade* by Rajan Sippy who is a flop hero. Not finding any other opening, he has turned to production, with his cousin Raj Sippy as director. He will himself play the third hero, after Dharmendra and Shatrughan Sinha with Dimple and Kimmy as heroines. Rajan has still to find his heroine. All were present except Dharam who had suffered an injury during a shooting. Sunny came to stand-in for papa but left abruptly on seeing the huge crowd. Shashi Kapoor swit-

ched on the camera and Shatru opened the champagne bottle with a bang.

## Flop

Another flop actor Gulshan Arora was not as lucky. Twice he announced the launch of his *Deewana Ashiq*. When journalists went there they found it had been cancelled. Riding on the crest of a popularity wave is Shatrughan Sinha. He has signed up for nearly 15 films after Khudgarz. For his birthday in December he had decided not to disturb the shooting of *Shiva Sakti*. When he arrived on location, the producer Anand fired several gun shots in the air to give him a royal salute. But Shatru brushed him aside.

Anyway on the same evening, a party for a new film called *Ranbhoomi* at Juhu Centaur hotel, became the occasion for celebrations. Soon after the opening shot, performed by Jeetendra, Shatru and Rishi, a huge birthday cake was brought for Shatru to cut.

There were also nine other cakes, as the film's title has nine letters. Since Dimple could not attend, Juhi Chawla stole the show.

Another launching was that of *Ghaav* signifying an "Inner wound". A huge set was erected with the letters of the title broken up like wounds. Govinda and Farha spoke their lines, amidst electronic light

effects and musical prayers played on tape.

Govinda is very keen on promoting himself due to the rivalry of Chunky. But one producer has been rash enough to feature them together in a film called *Barabar Ki Takkar*. Govinda also had his birthday bash, along with a new film in his honour called *Naach Govinda Naach*. Obviously, he now wants to compete with the dancing Mithun rather than the fighting Chunky. Yet another big launch was of *Hinsa* (violence) with Shatru again playing opposite Raj Babbar, Poonam, Sonam, and new comer Sahil. Its characters are called warriors, colonels, commandos and so the evening party was a "victory celebration".

Then, there were three very big parties, crowded by guests and gate-crashers. The biggest was the silver jubilee of 'Mr India' and the start of their own new film *Roop Ki Rani, Choron Ka Raja*, at the Holiday Inn. Boney and Anil Kapoor, with brother Sanjay also an up-coming hero, did it with such pomp and show that Boney soon managed to get the title of big showman (after Subhash Ghai and R.K.). The hotel gate and the passage to the open pool-side were lavishly decorated, along with a welcoming band. An entire song-dance from the new film was picturised as the *muhurat* scene, on Sri Devi, Anil and chorus dancers. And then the whole skyline was lit up with fireworks, in which the long name of the film was also blazed. A lot of money went up in smoke that night.

The second big event was for *Roti Ki Keemat* with two Mithuns on stage, one in person and another in a realistic cut-out, as an angry young man, with Kimi as his heroine. At the party, Mithun arrived at midnight and stayed till morning, though he has just recovered from an operation. Is he going the Sanjeev Kumar way?

The third launch was of *Insaaf Apne Lahoo Se* the highlight being that Amitabh Bachchan attended it. This is because the new director is Dilip Kalyani, assistant to



Aruna Irani gets a piece of cake in the shape of Kohli's recording van.

Manmohan Desai, with whom Amit is very chummy. Sanjay Dutt, Sonam and Shekhar Suman stole the limelight, as hero Shatrughan did not come. He and Amitabh are on different political sides.

## Development

A new development is that of political leaders presiding over some film functions. As they belong to the opposition, the film folks' tussle against the present government becomes more interesting. On the other side, there are complaints from hotels that party bills have not

been cleared by industry people for more than six months.

Still *muhurats* and parties continue merrily. Super Cassettes gave quadruple Platinum Discs to the Mr India people. They also released Manoj's son Vishal Goswami's Ghazals called *Surahi*. Dilip Kumar presided with a flowery Urdu speech starting with: "I pray to Allah to lead him to greater success". Venus cassettes have a regular quota of three parties per month, to keep up with H.M.V. The C.B.S. music company held a party for Salma Agha. Raj Kumar Kohli got a

cake made in the shape of his new recording van.

Fight master Ram Shetty turned producer with *Khatarnak*. He did a grand *muhurat* where the set depicted a pack of huge glassy playing cards. The glass with the ace of diamonds broke and out came Sunjay Dutt. Then glasses of two queens of hearts got smashed and there emerged Anita Raj with Farha. Many more glasses will be broken by the time the film is complete. Govinda's brother Kirti does not know a thing about film direction. But he launched *Aakhri Kartootas* as an Indo-UK, co-pro in two languages. Yash Chopra started his *Chandni* with Sri Devi, Vinod Khanna and Rishi. He did it with a romantic display of "Love is forever and beyond, love is what you feel", adding that the film will be shot entirely inside a woman's heart.

Outside Bombay, Yash's partner T. Subbaram Reddy, a trade magnate of Hyderabad, lavishly celebrated his daughter's wedding calling stars and others from different places. The party was hosted at the posh new Krishna Oberoi hotel. The guest list ran into thousands and the cost of decorations into lakhs. Even the poor Bengali film world woke up, when *Sangharsha* was started at a Calcutta studio in grand style, topped by a cocktail-dinner at Hotel Hindustan.

Jeetendra (centre) eyes Kimi (left) as Mithun looks on at the launching of *Roti Ki Keemat*.

Pop goes the champagne cork. Shatru in high spirits at the 'Shehzade' party.



Rajan Sippy (left) turns producer with a star cast: Kimi, Shatru, Dimple and director Raj Sippy.

Successful Shatru gives Juhi Chawla a bite to eat at the party for *Ranbhoomi*.

Anupam Kher had refused to do the role of Mogambo in *Mr India* due to an ego clash with Boney Kapoor. But at the silver jubilee party, Anupam came sportingly as Master of ceremonies. So Amrith Puri (who became the popular Mogambo) gave Anupam a trophy for not playing the role. Otherwise, Amrith would have never got his role.

Padmini Kolhapure Sharma



Padmini Kolhapure (right) and husband: she will quit the film world at the end of April 1988.

## Behind the Screen

has given a notice through her lawyers that she will quit working as a film star at the end of April 1988. She will not shoot after that for any film, whether it is under production or yet to start (though she might have pocketed the signing amount). So all producers have been

asked to take her dates till then and finish up their films. But in case they fail to do it, Padmini will not be responsible and she will also leave for a long holiday abroad after May. So producers are now more alert about their heroines taking the matrimonial plunge.

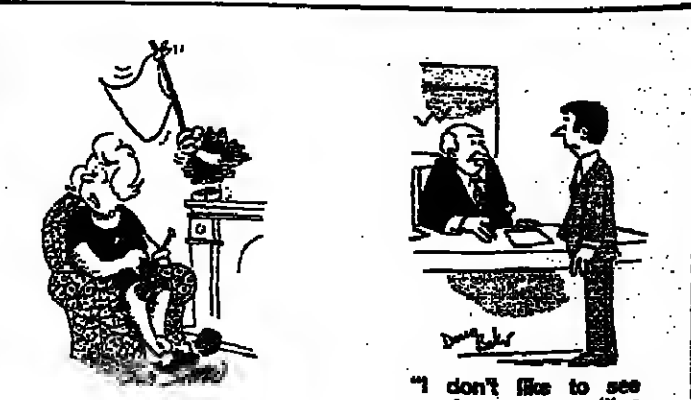
Vinod Khanna has started getting songs removed from his films. He forced *Rom* and *Raj Sippy* to cut out a duet from *Mahadeva* because it sounded too South Indianish to Vinod. And the film makers obliged.

These days, films are shot without the active presence of director. The dance, fight and rape masters do everything.

The dance on the title song of *Roop Ki Rani* was banded wholly by Saroj the choreographer, while director Satish Kaushik flitted around saying hello to everyone. Again, a dance for *Paap Ki Duniya* was shot at Ooty by the dance composer while director Shibu Mitra was in Bombay doing some patch work.

Jaya Prada sent out a press note denying that she ever tried suicide by swallowing sleeping pills. Did somebody say that a guilty conscience always bites?

"Mithun, the Indian Jackson" is the name of the new music album in which he has sung all the disco songs. That is not the end. They have also prepared the same on a video cassette, in which Mithun will jump, shake and dance to the tune of his own songs.



"Waynel Turn that stereo down!"

"I don't like to see employees growling - so do it discreetly."

## FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

## 'CALCIFICATION' NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT

QUESTION: I hadn't had a good physical for years, but when I finally did, my chest X-ray showed a "calcification." My doctor said it was nothing to worry about, but I am still wondering what it was caused by. Will you help?

ANSWER: Your doctor is right, you really have nothing to worry about, and perhaps my answer will explain why. The chances are that many years ago, perhaps as a child, you were exposed to tuberculosis. But, as is the case in many of us, your body defenses were strong enough to fight off the invading infection, and you probably were never aware of the battle going on inside you.

However, a small part of your lung tissue was affected and was damaged by the infection. During the long healing process which followed, this tissue was filled with calcium salts, one of the body's healing mechanisms, and became visible to the probing rays of the X-ray machine. The calcification is a sign that you have a great body immunity against TB and will probably never contract the disease again. Now I am basing this upon the fact that your doctor recognised it. There may be other reasons for calcifications, but

they are not part of your case.

QUESTION: What does "10" have to do with pain control?

ANSWER: I think you're referring to TENS, or transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation. TENS is a pain-relief method that uses a small device to send crucial impulses to the nerves. No one knows exactly why TENS works, but one theory is that the electrical stimulation overloads the nerves and blocks the brain's ability to receive a sensation of pain. Another theory says the electrical stimulation makes the brain produce natural painkillers called endorphins.

Either way, TENS can provide relief for some people who suffer from severe back pain, arthritis or other conditions, but it doesn't work for everyone. The device — a small pack containing batteries and two or four electrodes — must be prescribed by a physician.

TENS takes time to get used to, and finding the right assortment and placement of electrodes for each individual also takes time. It may take up to six weeks of trial and error before an individual finds out whether TENS works.

QUESTION: After a long period in the water, my daughter's hands are full of wrinkles like a dried prune. I know it happens to everyone, but I wondered what caused it and if there is any danger.

ANSWER: Normally our skin is pretty waterproof, because its outer layers are covered with a material called keratin, a protein which normally sheds water. However, it only works up to a point and you can overdo a good thing, like a cool swim. After a while the water penetrates the keratin and the cells begin to suck up the water, becoming larger and fuller. When they become saturated, there is just too much skin for the area it is supposed to cover, and so it buckles into folds, and wrinkles. Fingertips are particularly sensitive to this, so you observe it there first, but it can happen to skin anywhere on the body if you stay immersed long enough. So, you're not dry like a prune, but just too wet! Slow drying out of the skin permits it to regain its usual size, and everything returns to normal. And, no, there is no damage or danger to the skin from this whole process.

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# BUSINESS & FINANCE

## UK house prices drop

LONDON, Jan 6, (UPI): House prices in Britain are slowing down, to an even lower level than recent reports have suggested, said the country's third largest building society, nationwide Anglia in its latest British House Price bulletin yesterday.

The society pointed out that borrowers are now having to find nearly four times their annual income to buy the average house.

The last time the house price to income ratio was this high was in the early 1970s, when annual increases fell from 42 per cent to 4.5 per cent over three years.

The advances of a similar collapse in 1988 are very small, the society said.

But it was expecting increases of no more than 15 per cent in the south-east of England and 10-12 per cent in the country as a whole.

This compared with 1987 figures of 23 per cent and 16 per cent.

There are already signs that the market is slowing down. Rises in the last quarter of 1987 were by east-Anglia and London, where prices increased by three per cent. But even here, this compared with rises of 10 per cent and six per cent respectively in the quarter to September.

Elsewhere, the story was the same with house prices stable or even falling as the year ended.

Scotland, the West-Midlands and the North-West all recorded no change.

In Yorkshire and Humberside average prices fell by one per cent. And in Wales they fell by a full two per cent, the society said.

Prices paid at the end of 1987 ranged from an average of £80,000 (\$144,000) for a property in London to less than £30,000 (\$54,000) in Northern England and Northern Ireland.

Putting this in perspective, in part of Northern-England it is possible to buy a large, new detached house for around £45,000 (\$81,000) — about two-thirds the cost of a two-bedroom flat in Greater London, the society said.

**CBS completes sale of records operations to Sony Corp.**

NEW YORK, Jan 6, (AP): CBS Inc. and Sony Corp. said yesterday they had completed the previously disclosed sale of the CBS Records operations to the Japanese electronics giant for about \$2 billion.

Sony, based in Tokyo, said the records company will be operated as an independent, wholly-owned subsidiary under the name CBS Records Inc.

It is the world's largest records concern with 10,000 employees worldwide, manufacturing facilities in 14 countries, subsidiary record companies in 36 countries and a direct mail unit that includes a record club.

CBS Records will remain housed in the CBS corporate headquarters building in New York under a multi-year lease, according to CBS Records spokesman Robert Altshuler.

CBS and Sony announced Nov 19 that they had agreed on the deal, which involved one of CBS's core businesses. CBS's main interest is broadcasting.

Sony announced on Dec 23 that it had secured the necessary government approvals for the transaction.

Sony said it would get a third of the purchase amount from its own funds and the remainder would be financed through domestic and foreign financial institutions.

The records business posted an operating profit of \$162 million on worldwide sales of \$1.49 billion in 1986, accounting for 37 per cent of CBS's operating profit and 31 per cent of its total revenue.

**Bank boosts housing loans**

THE Chairman of Kuwait's Savings and Credit Bank Youssef Al Houli said that the amount of loans given by the bank to citizens for building their own houses had increased during 1987 compared to the amount given the previous year.

He said that these loans had increased after the distribution of land allotments by the National Housing Authority and that the bank had reconsidered loan charters for real estate in keeping with new developments in the real estate market. He added that the bank had discontinued loaning for agricultural projects and that these loans would now be given by the Industrial Bank.

## G-7 pledges to raise their profile in the markets

## Fed seeks to show its commitment to dollar

NEW YORK, Jan 6, (Reuters): The usually secretive US Federal Reserve has become more active and visible in foreign exchange markets, emerging with greater frequency to buy dollars and underline its commitment to a stable US currency, dealers say.

"The Fed's giving a signal of the dollar is over," said Lawrence Ryan, senior vice president at European American Bank.

**Shifted**

Dealers said the US central bank's manner shifted last week when the dollar hit a series of historic lows. They said the Fed has since begun buying dollars more often and has altered its behaviour to other, subtle ways.

Although the Fed in the past has demanded a high degree of discretion from the commercial banks with which it trades, it recently implied that it would not be averse to news of its operations reaching a wider audience, some dealers said.

It still refuses to discuss its open-market operations, unlike the West German and some other central banks.

The Fed is not believed to have purchased anywhere near the \$1 billion that the Bank of Japan was said to have bought on Monday alone.

But dealers say the tone of its intervention has grown more aggressive. Yesterday, for instance, the Fed was said to have bought dollars at 1.6130 West German marks as the US currency was coming up from below 1.6100 marks.

The West German, Swiss, Austrian, Italian and Canadian central banks also intervened on the dollar's behalf this week. The Bank of Japan was in the market again after Monday's rally.

The dollar closed in New York yesterday at 1.6310 West German marks and 127.80 Japanese yen, a gain about 4.5 and six per cent respectively on its postwar quoted lows of 1.5615 marks and 120.20 yen recorded in Tokyo on Monday. It moved even higher in Europe this morning, touching 1.6415 and 128.10.

## US budget to beat deficit ceiling

WASHINGTON, Jan 6, (Reuters): The 1989 federal budget being prepared by President Reagan will meet or beat a deficit ceiling fixed by law at \$136 billion and calls for a significant increase in spending to fight AIDS, White House officials said yesterday.

**Dictated**

"The budget summit dictated this budget," a White House official told reporters after Reagan held an hour-long meeting with top advisers. He referred to last November's agreement between the White House and congressional Democrats to cut the deficit by trimming spending and raising certain taxes.

The official, who asked not to be identified, said there were "no dramatic changes" in the spending cuts called for in that accord but added that Reagan had approved a "significant increase" in government spending to combat Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.

The official declined to disclose specifics of the 1989 budget — the last one that Reagan will see through Congress — other than saying that there would be an increase in spending to combat AIDS.

Dr Otis Bowe, head of the Department of Health and Human Services, has requested \$1.14 billion for AIDS-related research and education, the New York Times said yesterday.

That figure represents a 45 per cent increase over Reagan's last budget request and is roughly 20 per cent more than Congress approved for the current fiscal year.

Reagan, faulted by many legislators, health officials and AIDS victims for failing to do more to fight the disease, was belogured by budget officials to accept the Health Department's proposal, the newspaper said.

**Downward**

Earlier, White House spokesman Mario Fitzwater said at his daily news briefing: "The deficit is on a downward trend and the 1989 budget proposal will continue that track."

Under a budget control law known as the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Act, federal red ink cannot exceed \$136 billion in the 1989 financial year, which starts next October 1.

"I'm sure that we'd like to get below that (ceiling) but I just don't know the number," Fitzwater said.

Fitzwater said Reagan's new budget would reflect spending and tax agreements reached after more than a month of tough negotiations between the administration and Congress following the October 19 stock market crash.

## Brazilian minister promises quick debt negotiations

BRASILIA, Brazil, Jan 6, (AP): Economist Mailson Ferreira da Nobrega, who was named Brazil's new finance minister yesterday, promised quick foreign-debt negotiations and an agreement with the International Monetary Fund.

Nobrega, 45, was named by President Jose Sarney as the fourth finance minister in the 3-year-old administration. He replaced Luis Carlos Bresser Pereira, who resigned to December over differences with the president over a tax reform programme.

Having held various government jobs for the past 25 years, including being second in command to Bresser Pereira, Nobrega has been the acting finance minister since the resignation.

Last night, Nobrega told reporters Sarney instructed him to negotiate the country's triple-digit inflation, budget deficit and to remove government intervention from the economy.

"I promise no miracles, no economic packages, no price freezes and no heroic measures," he said. "But we will show we are acting strongly on a day-to-day basis."

**Freedom**

Nobrega said Sarney gave him full freedom in naming a new team to return to New York on Jan 11 to continue foreign debt negotiations with creditor banks.

Brazil virtually ended an 11-month debt payment moratorium last week by restarting interest payments on \$70 billion of its \$112-billion debt.

But negotiations for interest due in 1988 are to continue.

"We will negotiate the debt discreetly and not divulge our proposals before they are on the negotiating table," Nobrega said. "But we need a quick agreement because every day that passes Brazil bleeds hard currency."

Nobrega praised a recent agreement reached by Mexico on debt conversion and said he was optimistic that the plan created improved conditions for Brazil, the Third World's largest debtor.

## US seed exports gain

WASHINGTON, Jan 6, (AP): A US Agriculture Department agency says other countries are increasingly turning to the United States for seed to grow beans, corn, flowers, forage, sorghum, turf and vegetables.

Last year's seed exports were valued at more than \$374 million up by 29 per cent since 1982, says Lloyd Coonrod of the Foreign Agricultural Service. And some interesting trends have developed.

"For example, Italian farmers are planting more soybean seed at the expense of corn," Coonrod said. "And somebody out there loves salads, because radish seed shipments continue to grow faster than any other vegetable seed."

Italy was the top buyer in 1986 with purchases of \$57.7 million, followed by Mexico with \$41.1 million and Japan with \$39 million.

Vegetable seeds were the most popular, accounting for \$137.4 million, or 37 per cent of last year's total, Coonrod said. Japan was the largest buyer of those, at \$16.6 million.

Beans, peas, sweet corn, tomato and watermelon were the most popular vegetable seed crops. The biggest gain, however, was in radish seed, which was up by nearly half to \$6.3 million.

Forage and turf seeds were the next largest category at \$81.6 million, with Canada accounting for \$14 million of the total, while Japan bought \$13.1 million worth and Saudi Arabia \$10.3 million.

Coonrod said the forage and turf seed sales to Saudi Arabia jumped sharply last year because of new Saudi policy to improve and expand local pastures.

## US-Soviet grain meeting underway

WASHINGTON, Jan 6, (Reuters): American and Soviet agricultural officials are holding an unexpected meeting in London this week to discuss US-Soviet grain trade issues, administration officials told Reuters yesterday.

The officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said topics included the possibility of more subsidised American wheat shipments to Moscow, Soviet purchases of US corn, and the future of US-Soviet long term grain agreements.

**Initiated**

US officials at the meeting included an agricultural specialist from the US trade representative's office, a US trade official said.

US Agriculture Department officials left early this week for the meeting, cancelling previously made appointments, grain industry sources said.

Whether Moscow or Washington initiated the meeting is unknown, but trade analysts said the US haste might have been spurred by recent Moscow interest in buying big quantities of European grains and Argentine wheat.

"They (US officials) don't want to be left out of the market," an industry official said.

Moscow has been an active buyer of US wheat this autumn and winter, purchasing almost five million tons of subsidised wheat since October. Only 200 tons of wheat are left under the US subsidy offer made on November 27.

Under a controversial but effective US export subsidy programme, American grain traders sell Moscow wheat at reduced prices, and the US government supplements the exporters with surplus grain from government stocks.

been effective.

"The point is, they are intervening at much higher levels. The style has changed," said Tom Campbell, head of North American Foreign exchange at First National Bank of Chicago.

**Alarmed**

Dealers said the Group of Seven industrial nations — the United States, Japan, West Germany, Britain, Canada, France and Italy — were probably alarmed that the markets took their December 22 pledge to strive for currency stability so lightly, and decided to raise their profile in the markets.

Japan has been the chief exponent of vocal intervention, reinforcing its market operations with official comments. Now other G-7 members have joined in the public relations exercise.

French Finance Minister Edouard Balladur alluded on Monday to 'secret' clauses in the latest G-7 pact, and West Germany's Bundesbank has begun to confirm its purchases quickly.

Still, while the central banks may have succeeded in bolstering the dollar for now, dealers say the rally may be short-lived for fundamental economic reasons, namely the huge US trade and budget deficits — factors which have weighed heavily on the dollar for the past two years.

If US November trade figures due out on January 15 show no substantial improvement from October's record \$17.63 billion shortfall, the dollar may slump again.

"The consensus is building that the dollar will move up (in the) short term. But a very negative trade number will be hard to swallow. The dollar does not have enough resiliency to resist that. It's still fragile," a dealer said.

**Consumer confidence in EEC dented**

BRUSSELS, Belgium, Jan 6, (AP): Consumer confidence in the European Economic Community was hit by the fall in stock prices in September and early October, according to an EEC survey published yesterday.

The survey, carried out by the EEC Executive Commission in the two weeks before the Oct 19 collapse in share prices, showed that the community's consumer confidence indicator lost one point between September and October.

This suggested that consumers were worried already about the effects of the share price falls that occurred in September, the commission said.

Results of the November survey likely will show a considerable fall in EEC consumer confidence, the commission said. But it added that the weakening in consumer confidence here is unlikely to be as serious as in the United States where there is more share ownership than in Europe.

**Indonesia to export more cement this year**

JAKARTA, Jan 6, (Opecna): Indonesia's cement export was expected to increase sharply this year due to output reduction in Japan and South Korea.

The vice-chairman of the Indonesian Cement Association (ASI), Sudwikatmono, attributed the reduction in these two countries to appreciation of the exchange values of their currencies against the US dollar.

**Steps**

He urged Indonesia to adopt the necessary steps to strengthen its position as a cement exporter, adding that lower production costs have been achieved in the country by shifting to coal-fired processing units.

Indonesian cement has been exported to 17 countries, including the Middle East, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Singapore, Thailand and Malaysia, Sudwikatmono told Antara, the Indonesian national news agency.

In 1987, the volume of cement exported abroad reached 3.30 million tons worth more than \$60 million, compared with 1986 volume of 1.74 million worth \$41.5 million he said.

## World Business Summary

### IDB hands out \$7.51b in loans

JEDDAH, Jan 6, (Opecna): Since its inception in 1976, the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) has extended more than \$7.51 billion in loans to industrial projects and foreign trade operations to its 44 member countries.

Of the total, about \$191 million were extended by IDB in special assistance for educational and health projects for Muslim communities outside member states, in addition to a number of technical and other assistance in various sectors.

According to IDB's report covering its activities over the past 12 years, it estimated the contribution by the six nations of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) to IDB initial capital to date to about \$472 million, with additional subscription of \$606 million, bringing the GCC total contribution to over \$1 billion.

Referring to the bank's cooperation with national financing institutions and other multilateral agencies, the report said the bodies' contributions to the bank's capital totalled \$34 billion at the end of 1986 to finance projects in developing countries.

These institutions, it noted, have extended a total of \$19.2 billion to IDB member states over the period 1976-87.

In 1979, the report said, the bank set up a special programme to assist private and public investors.

### Nigeria expects \$5.45b from oil this year

LAGOS, Jan 6, (Opecna): Nigeria expects a revenue of \$5.45 billion from crude oil exports this year, President Ibrahim Babangida said in his 1988 budget speech.

Total foreign exchange budget for the year would be \$7.04 billion including public and private sector non-oil estimates and a \$500 million balance of payments support loan.

The president said oil earnings in the first three quarters of 1987 were less than projected, adding that the world oil market was largely unstable although it recorded some improvement in the last few months.

He said government revenue performed relatively well in 1987, attributing this to the relative stability in the latter part of the year.

Reuter news agency quoted the president as saying the general situation was unlikely to change "dramatically for the better immediately."

In the new budget, a seven-year oil wage freeze was lifted and, according to Reuter, "the removal of domestic oil subsidies was left untouched."

### Shipbuilding orders down

SEOUL, Jan 6, (AP): South Korea's shipbuilding industry registered a small drop in orders in tonnage terms during 1987, the Korea shipbuilding industrial cooperative said today.

The cooperative said orders for 1987 totalled 3.43 million tons, a drop in tonnage of 2.3 per cent compared to the year before. But the cooperative said the value of the 1987 orders was up 11.5 per cent from 1986 to \$1.85 billion.

Foreign orders during 1987 increased by 24.2 per cent to 2.36 million tons, the group said. But the value of foreign orders fell 20.1 per cent to \$1.28 billion, it said.

The backlog of orders at the end of 1987 stood at 156 ships with a combined tonnage of 5.76 million tons and a value of \$2.97 billion, the industry group said.

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ABBEY LIFE	252/0	A.B. ELECT	383/0 385/0
ALD LYONS	358/0	APV PLC	133/0 133/0
AMSTRAD	120/0	AARNSON	114/0 116/0
ARGYLE GP	195/0	AAR IDLG	311/0 311/0
ASDA HFI	167/0	ACATOS+HT	438/0 438/0
A B FOODS	295/0	ADISON G	96/0 96/0
BAA PP	98/0	ADNEST GP	294/0 295/0
BTR	283/0	AILEA	145/0 143/0
BAT INDS	468/0	ALEX WRMK	174/0 175/0
BARRCLAYS	500/0	ALLIANCE	728/0 725/0
BASS	830/0	ALL COIL	124/0 124/0
BEAZER	177/0	ALL PLAN	280/0 280/0
BEECHAM	470/0	AMARI PLC	152/0 151/0
BET ORD	233/0	AMC PLC	324/0 322/0
BICC PLC	345/0	AMER TRUS	108/0 108/0
BLUE ARW	105/0	ANGLIA TV	359/0 361/0
BLUE CIRC	442/0	ANUSCHER	70/0 70/0
BOC GP	425/0	U-APP MOL	360/0 360/0
BOOTS CO	238/0	RACAL	234/0
BPB INDS	270/0	RANK HVS	323/0
BR CONN	335/0	RANK ORG	592/0
BR AIRWAY	155/0	RICKY+CO	805/0
BR AEROSP	340/0	REDLAND	422/0
BR GAS PP	33.15	REED	418/0
B.P.	266/0	RYL BK SC	350/0
B.P. NEW	77/0	RMC GRP	445/0
BR TELCOM	226/0	REUTERS	536/0
BRIT OIL	45.94	RT2 CORP.	365/0
BUNZL	183/0	ROLLS ROY	128/0
BURNHAM OL	450/0	ROTHMAN B	378/0
BURTON	227/0	ROTHMAN E	442/0
CABLESWIR	362/0	ROYAL INS	447/0
CADBURYS	255/0	SAATCHI	231/0
COATS VTY	270/0	SAINTSBURY	212/0
COIN UN	349/0	SCOT+NEW	128/0
CONS GOLD	920/0	SEARS	228/0
COOKSON	525/0	SEDEWICK	122/0
COORAUOL	358/0	SHELL	1085/0
DALGETY	311/0	SMITH+NEPH	147/0
DEE CP	208/0	STO. CHART	525/0
DIXONS	200/0	STC	244/0
ENG CHINA	420/0	STORENSE	244/0
ENTER OIL	273/0	SUN ALLIA	867/0
FERRANTI	88.5	TARNAC	263/0
FISONS	263/0	TATE+LYLE	808/0
GEN ACCID	843/0	TESCO	160/0
GEN ELEC	164/0	THORN ESE	560/0
GLAXO	1028/0	TRAF HSE	322/0
GRANADA	310/0	YBS	114/0
GLOBE	140/0	Y + H	186/0
GRAND NET	462/0	TRUTHSEE	230/0
GUS A	105/0	ULTRAMAR	190/0
GUARD RYL	845/0	UNILEVER	492.5
GKN	295/0	UNIGAYE	285/0
GUINNESS	99.29	UTD BISC	274/0
HANSON	530/0	UTD MNSR	450/0
HANSON	138/0	WELLCOME	384/0
HUKER SID	472/0	WHITBRI IN	288/0
HAWLEY	96/0	WILLIS FB	235/0
HILLSDOWN	283/0	WOOLWORTH	265/0

World Indices	
INDEX	LATEST
FT 30 ORD	1438.0
FT 500 SHR	0
FT ALL SHR	0
FT GOV SEC	87.76
FT GOLD MN	299.3
FT HIFES F	0
FT OIL	0
FT WLD DLR	114.40
FT WLD STG	92.69
FT WLD LOC	100.87

### London Stock Market Report

U.K. STOCKS BELOW HIGHS AS WALL STREET FALTERS  
LONDON, JAN 6 - SHARES REMAINED FIRM IN LATE TRADING BUT WERE BELOW THE HIGH OF THE DAY SEEN AROUND MIDDAY WHEN THE FTSE 100 INDEX BROKE THROUGH 1,400 FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE WORLD STOCK MARKET CRASH LAST OCTOBER, DEALERS SAID.

AN UNCERTAIN OPENING ON WALL STREET WAS CITED AS THE MAIN CAUSE OF THIS AFTERNOON'S EASING, WITH THIS BEING ATTRIBUTED TO THE DOLLAR'S NERVOUS FLUCTUATIONS AFTER TWO DAYS OF GAINS BASED ON CONCERTED CENTRAL BANK INTERVENTION.

VOLUME WAS HIGH, BUT DEALERS POINTED OUT THAT OF THE 486 HLN SHARES TRADED BY 1500 GMT OVER 125 HLN WERE IN OLD AND NEW BP. BY 1530, THE FTSE WAS 12.9 POINTS UP AT 1,402.5.

EARLIER, DEALERS HAD ATTRIBUTED TODAY'S GAINS MOSTLY TO THE EARLY STRENGTH OF THE DOLLAR, WHICH PREDICTABLY HELPED THE STOCKS OF LARGE U.K. DOLLAR-EARNING COMPANIES.

BP NEW SHARES GAINED A NET 4-1/2P TO 76-1/2 AFTER A HIGH OF 78. THE BANK OF ENGLAND'S 70P PER SHARE SUPPORT SCHEME EXPIRED AT 1500 GMT BUT THIS HAD LITTLE EFFECT ON THE SHARES WHICH ONLY MEAKENED IN LINE WITH THE REST OF THE MARKET, DEALERS SAID.

ANALYSTS SAY THE BANK'S SUPPORT AND ACTIVE BUYING BY KUWAIT HAVE UNDERPINNED THE PRICE OF THE PARY-PAID SHARES, BUT A RISE IN THE EXISTING SHARES TO 267 FROM 263 TODAY ALSO DISCOURAGED LATE SELLING.

### London Gold

LONDON, JAN 6 - GOLD BULLION CLOSED SOME 6-1/2 DLRS ABOVE TUESDAY'S LONDON CLOSE AT 484.50/485.00 DLRS AN OUNCE AND NEAR THE DAY'S HIGH, WITH PROFESSIONAL SHORT COVERING TAKING THE METAL HIGHER, DEALERS SAID.

TRADE BUYING WAS ALSO EVIDENT ON THE LATE RISE AFTER THE DEALERS HAD GONE SHORT IN EARLY AFTERNOON TRADING AS THE DOLLAR FIRMED FURTHER, THEY ADDED.

GOLD FIRMED INITIALLY FOLLOWING AN OVERNIGHT RALLY IN U.S. SILVER FUTURES AND WAS LATER SET AT 481.60 AND 481.40 DLRS AT THE RESPECTIVE FIXING SESSIONS AFTER TUESDAY'S CLOSE OF 478.00/478.50 DLRS.

### London Money Market

LONDON, JAN 6 - MONEY RATES ENDED WITH A FIRMER BIAS BUT TRADING LACKED CONVIVION AND THE NEAR-TERM OUTLOOK FOR BASE RATES HAS BECOME NO CLEARER, DEALERS SAID.

"WE'RE ALL A BIT FLUNNKOED," ONE BROKER SAID. "THE MARKET'S GOING NOWHERE AT ALL."

LONGER TERM RATES MOVED UP AT THE END OF LAST YEAR ON SPECULATION THAT DOMESTIC ECONOMIC CONDITIONS WOULD FORCE A TIGHTENING OF MONETARY CONDITIONS QUITE SOON IN 1988.

SHORTER RATES WERE HELD BACK BY UNCERTAINTIES OVER THE DOLLAR AND THE AUTHORITIES' NEED TO CALM FINANCIAL MARKETS AND SOME OPERATORS STILL FEEL THE NEXT RATE MOVEMENT WILL BE DOWN.

### Poole Exchange

DLR	STG	DMK	FFR	OPG
DLR 1.8035/50	1.7990/00	1.6550/60	5.5960/90	HOON
STG 1.6420/6500	2.968/982	2.9695/9755	10.0280/0545	HOON
DMK 5.572/586	10.073/091	337.7/338.3	29.520/680	FIX
SFR 1.3368/3378	2.4213/4245	81.43/54	24.12/15	1300
HFL 1.8560	3.3455	112.415	33.265	FIX
ECU 1.24724	0.693488	2.06505	6.98079	CLSE
SDR 1.39746	0.755792	2.25382	7.61825	HOON
YEN 128.25/35	232.83/232.23			
SDR	05/01/88	OTHERS	06/01/1988	

Morgan Stanley Capital International Indices	
INDEX	LATEST
AUSTRALIA	257.9
AUSTRIA	212.6
BELGIUM	264.6
CANADA	361.3
DENMARK	432.3
FRANCE	295.4
GERMANY	154.4
HONG KONG	1713.4
ITALY	382.0
JAPAN	1010.1
MEXICO	4352.2
NETHERLANDS	227.7
NORWAY	506.5
SINGAPORE	415.7
SPAIN	217.9
SWEDEN	714.5
SWITZ	144.2
U.K.	540.0
U.S.A.	239.9
WORLD	406.6
E.A.P.E.	735.2
EUROPE	363.6

Morgan Stanley Capital International Indices	
INDEX	LATEST
AUSTRALIA	257.9
AUSTRIA	212.6
BELGIUM	264.6
CANADA	361.3
DENMARK	432.3
FRANCE	295.4
GERMANY	154.4
HONG KONG	1713.4
ITALY	382.0
JAPAN	1010.1
MEXICO	4352.2
NETHERLANDS	227.7
NORWAY	506.5
SINGAPORE	415.7
SPAIN	217.9
SWEDEN	714.5
SWITZ	144.2
U.K.	540.0
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AM FAMILY	14/3 14/4
AM HON PRO	76/0 76/0
AM STUARD	38/3 38/5
AM STORES	51/0 51/0
AMER T Y	28/4 28/4
AMOCO CP	72/3 72/1
AMP INC	51/3 51/4
AMPCO PITT	14/3 14/4
AMR CORP	35/2 34/6
AMR GEN CO	32/4 32/5
ANDRA HESS	27/0 26/6
ANTHER ELE	10/1 10/1
APACIFIC CP	8/3 8/2
APACHE PEY	3/7 4/0
ARCO INC	12/2 12/0
ASARCO INC	29/0 28/7
ASHLAND OIL	55/0 56/4
ATLAS CORP	31/1 31/0
AVERY INT	21/5 21/4
AVERT INC	26/2 26/1
AVON PRODS	26/6 26/2
BELL ATLAN	68/0 68/3
BCE INC	29/2 29/5
BELL-HOW	60/4 60/4
BETR STEEL	17/6 17/6
BEVERLY	6/0 6/1
BNK BOSTON	23/3 23/3
BNK BSTM-A	0 49/4
BNK N-YORK	28/2 28/2
BNK YR-NY	33/6 33/6
BANKAMER	7/4 7/4
BANKAM SPEC	6/6 6/5
BOEING	40/2 40/3
BOISE CASC	70/5 70/5
BORDEEN	50/7 50/4
BORG-WARNE	0 45/5
BOATSTAR	32/1 32/0
BR TELECOM	42/2 42/0
BRIGGS-STYR	28/3 28/4
BRIST-MYER	43/2 43/5
BRUNSWICK	16/0 15/7
BURBURY CP	12/6 12/5
C 3 INC	11/6 11/5
CABOT CORP	33/3 33/1
CAESARS W	20/7 20/5
CALFAL FRE	22/0 22/0
CAS NAT GS	14/4 14/3
CASH-COKE	19/0 18/6
CATERPILLAR	65/2 64/2
CB1 INC	21/1 21/2
CBS	165/0 164/4
CENTEL CP	36/2 36/4
CENTRO DAT	2/2 2/2
CHAMP INTL	35/4 35/5
CHAMP SPA	11/4 11/5
CHARTER CO	4/1 4/0
CHASE MANH	22/7 22/5
CHENED CP	34/2 34/0
CHEMICO NY	22/0 21/6
CHEVRON	42/5 42/3
CHRYSLER	24/4 24/2
CHRYSLER CORP	58/2 58/0
CHUR FR CH	7/0 7/1
CIGNA CORP	47/3 47/2
CIN MILACR	22/4 22/2
CIR CIT ST	20/2 20/2
CIRCLE K	11/2 11/1
CITICORP	20/4 20/3
CLARK EQUI	26/0 25/7
CLOROX	29/2 28/2
CMPLLS RES	1/4 1/4
CMPLLS SP	27/3 27/5
CO PACIFIC	17/2 17/1
COACHMEN	7/7 7/6
COASTAL	28/0 27/3
COCA COLA	39/5 39/5
COLECO	4/0 4/0
COLEMAN CO	34/4 34/6
COLGAYE	41/5 41/7
COLT GAS	10/3 10/2
COWM EDIS	28/1 28/0
CONAGRA	26/7 27/0
CONS ED-WY	43/0 43/0
CONTINENTAL	40/1 39/7
CONTEL ILL	40/3 40/2
CONTEL CP	30/2 30/5
CONTR DATA	23/6 23/6
COOPER T-B	31/6 31/6
CORNING GL	9/7 9/6
CRANE	49/6 49/6
CRAY RES	22/0 21/5
CULLEN	7/7 7/7
DANIEL IND	0 7/4
DATA GEN	25/2 25/3
DATAPoint	5/0 5/0
DAYTON HUD	30/2 30/0
DIG EQUIP	143/0 142/6
DEERE-CO	37/2 37/3
DELTA AIR	38/6 38/6
DIAMOND SH	9/0 9/0
DISNEY W	61/4 61/2
DISNEY W	65/5 63/0
DONOR CORP	62/0 62/0
DON CHEN	91/6 92/0
DON JONES	32/0 31/7
DRESSER	26/2 26/6
DREYFUS	26/2 26/2
DUKE POWER	44/4 44/4
DUN BRAD	56/0 56/0
DUPONT	88/5 88/2
DUKESNE	12/2 12/1
DYNAMICS	20/0 20/0
E SYSTEMS	28/6 28/6
EASTMAN K	52/1 51/7
EATON CORP	79/2 79/0
EMERY AIR	5/3 5/3
EMHART CP	21/0 21/2
ETHYL CP	19/3 19/3
EXCON	40/7 40/6
FAM DOL ST	10/2 10/2
FED EXPRESS	43/0 43/1
FIELDORST	15/3 15/1
FIN COR-AM	1/5 1/5
FIRESTONE	33/2 33/6
FMC CORP	34/6 34/7
FORD MOTOR	80/0 79/6
FORN HONAR	37/6 37/5
FOXBORO CO	24/4 24/4
FRCHLD IND	9/5 9/5
FST BANK	21/7 21/6
FST BOSTON	26/0 26/2
FST CHICAG	20/6 20/2
FST CTU BK	09 08
FST HAT BK	31/2 31/2
GAF CORP	44/7 44/6
GANNET CO	39/4 39/4
GALVESTON	1/6 1/6
GATX CORP	38/6 38/6
GCA CP	2/6 2/5
GEARHART	1/0 1/0
GEN DATA	4/3 4/4
GEHL DYHAM	51/3 51/3
GEN HOST	46/7 46/6
GEN HOUSSR	8/4 8/3
GEN INSTR	32/6 32/4

### Wall Street Statistics "Composite"

NYSE HIGHEST VOLUME	
BELLSOUTH	36 7/8
STERL DRUG	75 1/8
HAVISTAR	4 3/8
BAXTER LAB	24 5/8
IU INTL	18 1/8
ILL POWER	23 3/4
GILLETTE	33 1/8
IBM	121 3/8
CARD PAR	33 3/8
CONT ILL	3 1/8
AMEX HIGHEST VOLUME	
WANG LAB B	13 7/8
LORIMAR TE	10 1/2
BOLAR CO	21 1/8
ECHO BAY	23 5/8
ATLAS CON	1 3/8
BAT INDS	8 11/16
FRUIT LOON	5
TEXAS AIR	12
FINANCIAL	10 1/4
COMP CONS	5 1/2
NYSE LARGEST PER CENT CHANGE	
IU INTL	18 1/8
CLABIR CO	2 5/8
AMFSCO	2 1/8
BEST BUY C	8
AUGAT INC	14 3/4
NYSE VOLUME	79,008,200
STOCKS UP	558
STOCKS DOWN	644
5-JAN NASDAQ VOLUME	149,489,200
STOCKS UP 1996	DOWN 586

### Wall Street Market Report

NEW YORK, Jan 6 - Wall Street stocks turned lower by midday, giving up morning attempts to gain that kept the market mixed, brokers said. Profit-taking and doubts that central bank support would prop up the dollar for long accounted for the fall after a two-day rally, brokers said.

The Dow 30 index was down eight at 2024 and a few more issues showed losses than gains. Trading was fairly active.

IU Int'l gained 4-1/4 to 18 1/4. The company advised holders to take no action until they knew more about the 17-1/2 per share takeover offer from Neox. Becton Dickinson gained 1-3/8 to 55-3/8. An analyst raised her rating.

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY REUTERS FINANCIAL SERVICES



New York - Standard and Poor's Corp said it may downgrade 127 mln dlrs of AAA senior debt and A-1 plus commercial paper of Sterling Drug Inc. Also, Moody's Investors Service Inc said it may downgrade the company's debt rating.

AND LOW-PRICED COUNTERS CONTINUED TO DOMINATE THE MARKET.



# Call to enforce major economic reforms

THE function of the Kuwait Stock Market and its performance cannot be considered a yardstick for the performance of the Kuwaiti economy, according to the Al Shall annual report on the functioning of the Kuwait Stock Market in 1987.

The report said that the stock market in Kuwait was affected by the general policy and, more importantly, by the situation of public finance.

The report added that in order to mirror the true performance of the Kuwaiti economy, companies whose shares were traded in the stock market must be more closely involved in the local economy and this could take place only when the economy had long term development goals.

**Gradually**  
It pointed out that some major economic reforms should be enforced gradually, and temporarily, the example of good companies could be followed by others to improve their performance.

About the movement of Kuwaiti shares in the stock market during the past year, the report said that the indicator of Kuwaiti shares by the end of 1986 was at 38.85 points, an increase of 12.62 points over 1985. The indicator reached its peak on April 8 when it went up to 47.24 points. This was attributed mainly to splitting of Kuwaiti companies' shares and allowing Kuwaiti companies to purchase 10 per cent of their shares, coupled with a government expansionary financial and monetary policy.

But it again dropped to its lowest level of 38.74 points on Nov 25, just one month after the world stock market crash, going down by over 7.5 per cent of its value before the crash.

The report predicted that during 1988

dealers will continue to be selective about the shares they buy. But 1988 will be more difficult than 1987 regarding the level of trading and activity in the stock market because of the unavailability of more expansionary financial and monetary policies.

There is no scope for more splitting of shares, but some companies may use their right of purchasing ten per cent of their shares and this will have a temporary positive effect on their prices.

To meet the drop in activity in the stock market, the government allowed the commercial banks to distribute profits to shareholders.

The report said that trading in treasury bills and bonds may adversely affect trading in shares. But it predicted that trading will pick up, although temporarily, when the GCC citizens will be allowed to buy and sell shares in Kuwaiti companies.

The report predicted that 1988 will be of less importance to the Gulf companies as many more companies are expected to change into purely Kuwaiti companies.

The market will be positively affected by the return of some capital to Kuwait from the overseas markets if the state of uncertainty continues.

But the report predicted that if this takes place, it will not happen before the second half of this year, provided that tension does not increase in the Iraq-Iran war.

**Positive**  
It predicted a great positive effect if a major solution was arrived at in the Iraq-Iran war and this will be clearer in the commercial and contracting sectors.

The report stressed that in overall performance, the Kuwait stock market will be less active this year than it was last

year. About oil prospects, the report said that the oil revenues have been and will remain the main source of income.

It said that its importance has been further increased after the Oct 19 crash in the major world stock markets. But oil prices were under heavy pressure at the end of last year and this made them lose about 25 per cent in value compared with the highest price reached in the first half of last year.

**Pressures**

What added weight to these pressures, was the inter-Opec disputes and their non-commitment to oil production and prices. The report predicted weaker oil prices and production during this year, partly because of Opec's non-commitment and because of the drop in the demand for more oil by industrialised countries, and thirdly because of the drop in the exchange rate of US dollar.

About public finance in Kuwait, the report said that despite the improvement in the conditions of public finance during 1987 compared to the previous years, the finance policy was still unable to react positively with the drop in public revenues as a reality.

The report called for changing the present accounting method to include all types of revenues including that of Kuwait overseas investments and all the public expenditures, to identify the real deficit in the budget.

The report said that although the government step to borrow from the market was correct in principle, it was wrong in its timing and priority. It should have come after a detailed study of the structure of expenditures and after drawing a taxing policy as a companion for oil and investment revenues.

The Shall index was 41.81 points on Dec 13, and rose to 2.96 points from its level at the end of 1986 or by 7.6 per cent.

About Gulf companies shares, the report said that the Shall index for them was 46.25 points by the end of 1986, but during 1987 it went down to its lowest level of 42.89 points on Aug 12.

It recorded its highest level of 51.51 points, in three years on Oct 7. On Dec 31, 1987 it closed at 50.6 points an increase of 4.35 points or 9.41 per cent from its level at the end of 1986.

**Essential**

The report said that this analysis, supported by the previous year's analysis, shows that essential solutions for the problems facing companies gave better returns on its market prices than formal solutions.

The report added that the analysis shows that the Gulf companies performed better than Kuwaiti companies, simply because of strict scrutiny and formation of almost no new Gulf companies. This happened although some good Gulf companies left the stock market.

About the main events that took place in 1987 and affected the Stock Exchange, the report said that the first was the splitting of Kuwaiti company shares and allowing these companies to buy 10 per cent of their shares. This led to a temporary sharp increase in share prices, but this subsided shortly.

**Prefering**

The second main event was a change in the attitude of dealers who began preferring shares of some companies.

The local commercial banks index almost kept its level — an increase of just two per cent from 1986 to 1987. Most banks lost many points on their index but the index of the National Bank, Kuwait

Finance House and the Real Estate Bank rose by 35, 80 and 31 per cent respectively and this kept the banks index constant.

The index of investment companies rose by 35 per cent, and that of insurance companies by 34 per cent, while the index of the real estate companies fell by 1 per cent.

The index of industrial companies gained 44 per cent, of services companies 15 per cent, while the index of foodstuff companies went down by 10 per cent.

Financial companies index gained 16 per cent, and that of other companies lost 51 per cent.

**Impact**

The third major event of 1987 was the crash in the world stock market and the drop in the major world indices. This had little direct impact on the Kuwaiti stock market, but left some indirect results like psychological influence and financial influence on Kuwaiti companies having investments abroad.

The fourth and last major event during last year, was the government decision to borrow from the local market in order to meet the budget deficits by issuing treasury bills and bonds.

The law concerning this issue allowed the government to borrow K.D. 1.4 billion in the next 10 years. The government already started issuing the bonds and bills, and between Nov 25 and Dec 16, the government introduced three issues valued at KD 628 million which is 45 per cent of the total amount to be borrowed in 10 years.

**Went up**

The report concluded by saying that despite all events, the market value of the Kuwaiti shares went up by K.D. 500 million in 1987 compared to its value by the end of 1986.

## Indonesia pledges no rescheduling of debts

JAKARTA, Jan 6, (Reuters): Indonesia's economy, owing ever greater amounts of money overseas, needs to be revived by a restructuring of debt payments, some economists here argue.

The government today firmly denied that it will seek to renegotiate its estimated \$35.19 billion of debt and said paying back money owed is a matter of honour.

But private economists at a round table discussion with foreign correspondents later in the day argued that the debt payments and some sort of restructuring is necessary.

**Liquidity**  
"It's a common business practice," said former Trade Minister Frans Seda. "We should start now with the idea and put the liquidity into new investment in the economy."

"From a national point of view Indonesia is an obvious case for restructuring, as opposed to rescheduling," one Western banker, who asked not to be named, told the round table. "It's a problem of liquidity, not solvency. If Indonesia was a company it would just sit down with its bankers and stretch out the payments," he said.

Indonesia, the largest debtor in Asia, yesterday announced a budget for fiscal year 1988-89 that is badly skewed by the provision of \$6 billion for debt service

ing and repayments — two billion more than last year.

The measure gobbles up 36 per cent of the entire budget of \$17 billion, and more than half of current expenditure.

The fall in oil and natural commodity prices has reduced sharply Indonesia's revenues at a time when debt taken out in the oil-boom years of the 1970s to finance big capital projects is coming due.

This has been thrown into focus by the new budget, which business commentators and member of the opposition Indonesian Democratic Party Kwik Kian Gie said was like a flashing red warning light to the government.

Finance Minister Radjasa Prawiro ruled out rescheduling — renegotiating the terms and conditions on old loans to get better terms — as an option, saying it would only hurt the private sector as bankers shut down lending.

"Once you decide to reschedule the debt there will be no capital inflow (into Indonesia) anymore, as in the case of Latin America," he told foreign journalists at a briefing.

Indonesia two weeks ago served notice on the troubled oil organisation that it will not be bound by Opec's latest price and production agreement if other members cheat.

## Kuwait to step up trade ties with Egypt

CAIRO, Jan 6, (Reuters): Kuwait's Finance Minister Jassem Mohammed Al Khorafi said today after talks with President Hosni Mubarak that his country wanted to boost economic ties with Egypt.

"The aim of my discussions here is to increase investments and remove any negative aspects hindering them," he told reporters after the meeting with Mubarak. He said their talks focused on improving economic cooperation.

**Tour**

Mubarak visits Kuwait on January 11 as part of a tour of all six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states.

It will be his first trip to the region since GCC states resumed diplomatic ties with Cairo after the Arab League summit in Amman in November.

Egyptian Health Minister Ragheb Dawar said Kuwait had agreed to loan Egypt 10 million dinars (\$35 million) to help develop its pharmaceutical industry.

He said the loan was repayable over 15 years with a five-year grace period at interest of 3.5 per cent. The Middle East News Agency reported.

Khorafi conferred for the



Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak (left) pictured with Kuwait Finance Minister Jassem Al Khorafi in Cairo. (Reuters wirephoto)

second time today with Egyptian Prime Minister Atef Sidqi on promoting cooperation between the two countries in investment areas, the official Middle East News Agency reported.

The meeting was attended by the delegation accompanying Khorafi and Egypt's Finance Minister Mohammed Al Razaz and State Minister for International Cooperation Maurice

Makramallah, Mena said. The Egyptian finance minister described Khorafi's visit as important and hoped its positive results will become tangible soon.

## US gives South Korea 3-week deadline on imports

SEOUL, South Korea, Jan 6, (AP): The United States has given South Korea three weeks to open its markets to more than 100 American agricultural products, according to a report today.

Yonhap, the South Korean news agency, quoted unidentified sources as saying the United States gave the deadline as a condition for allowing South Korea to postpone lifting a ban on American beef imports.

US Trade Representative Clayton Yentler and South Korean Deputy Prime Minister Chung In-Young held talks in Washington this week on US demands for greater access to Korean domestic markets.

**Asked**

The South Korean government had asked for postponement of lifting the beef import ban until after legislative elections, which will be held by April, the Yonhap report said.

The ruling Democratic Justice Party is fearful of angering farmers and other rural voters before the election. Farmers have protested against plans to increase US agricultural

imports.

US officials responded by demanding that South Korea agree within three weeks to open its market to US imports of such products as frozen potatoes. They also demanded the South Korean government lower the price on imported American cigarettes and allow American insurance companies more business opportunities.

The South Korean delegation returned home early to convey the US demands to their government, the report said.

South Korea has limited or banned many American agricultural products to protect its own agricultural sector. The United States is now pressing for free access to Korean domestic markets.

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## PDO to begin offshore exploration

MUSCAT, Jan 6, (AP): Petroleum Development Oman, the main oil producer in this country, will shortly begin offshore exploration for the first time, oil industry sources said today.

A seismic survey off the south Oman coast will start early this year, following the signing in October of a new concession agreement giving the company 10,000 square miles (26,000 square km) of the Arabian sea, according to a PDO spokesman.

At the same time, the company acquired an extra 19,000 square miles (49,400 square km) of concession onshore in Dhofar, Oman's southern province. The concession, relinquished by British Petroleum, brings PDO's total acreage to 84,180 square miles (218,568 square km).

**Offshore**

The new offshore acreage is in three separate blocks — off Salalah, near the Kuria Muria Islands, and just south of Masirah Island off the east coast of Oman, according to PDO.

"The New Year brings a big challenge for PDO with our first foray into offshore exploration," the spokesman said.

The Omani government, which derives 80 per cent of state revenue from oil, has a 60 per cent stake in PDO which produces more than 90 per cent of Oman's oil.

An offshore oil discovery was recently made by a Canadian company. International Petroleum Corporation, also known as the Lundin Group, according to government sources.

The field was found in IPC's concession area off the west coast of the Musandam peninsula. Reserves are currently being evaluated.

"Should they prove positive, production could start next year," said one of the source.

## Gold rises

## Dollar soars as nervous rally goes on

LONDON, Jan 6, (Reuters): The dollar soared today extending a New Year rally on the basis of yet another report about a secret pact to defend it by major industrial nations, but some dealers worried the rebound might have been overdone.

"It's very disorderly," a New York dealer said. "There's a sense of panic out there." Gold prices rose.

Wall Street shares slipped, with the Dow Jones industrial average down eight at 2,024 by midday in New York, after being helped by the dollar's recovery yesterday.

**Uncertain**

London's blue-chip FTSE 100-share index breached 1,800 for the first time since the market crash in October, then eased to close slightly below yesterday's finish because of the uncertain mood on Wall Street.

But Tokyo, the highest stock market, posted its second strongest gain ever — up 5.6 per cent after the government said it would probably relax accounting rules for big investors.

A report by Japan's NHK network that the United States, West Germany and Japan secretly agreed last month to try keeping the dollar above 130 yen led to brisk dollar buying in Europe.

The dollar jumped four pfennings and nearly five yen to highs of 1.67 West German marks and 131.6 yen and then steadied to close in Europe at 1.66 marks and 129.7 yen.

**Set aside**

It was back just about where it was before December 10 news of a record US trade deficit for October sent it skidding.

The NHK report quoted unnamed government and central bank officials as saying the three countries had each set aside \$5 billion to do so. The US Treasury and West Germany's central bank both declined comment.

This week, steady buying by

central banks in the United States, Europe and Japan has sent the dollar rebounding from record lows of 1.5615 marks and 120.2 yen touched on Monday.

But, said one London currency dealer, "We are very surprised a report from Japan based on unnamed officials had such an effect. It shows how nervous the market is."

Many currency and stock dealers say they are unsure if the central banks themselves can push the dollar much higher.

"A lot of people are very confused. They need some time to recover from this week's events," said a senior currency dealer at a large regional West German bank.

**Intervening**

The key event was a decisive move by the US central bank, the Federal Reserve, to join the Europeans and Japanese in intervening to prop the dollar's value.

Traders were also heartened earlier this week by news of a secret accord to back a statement by the Group of Seven leading industrial nations — the United States, Japan, West Germany, France, Italy, Britain and Canada — which pledged continued support for steadier currency rates.

Although the content of the secret pact was not disclosed, dealers reckon it was a pledge that central banks would intervene to boost the dollar.

On the stock markets, dealers were cautious, although they said a firm dollar would boost shares in Europe and Asia.

A weak dollar cuts sales of European and Japanese firms in the US market, and gives US competitors a pricing edge.

**Breached**

In London, the FTSE 100-share index rose 20.7 points, or 1.1 per cent, to a midday high of 1,810.3 — the first time it breached 1,800 since October 23 when it was falling after Black Monday on Wall Street. But it later fell back to end at down 6.4

points on the day at 1,783.2.

Amsterdam's CBS-all share index gained 0.2 point to 71.5. The Paris Bourse indicator edged 1.38 per cent higher and Swiss shares gained 1.3 per cent, with the all share Swiss index up 10.4 points at 794.8.

Frankfurt's Faz index rose 3.96 points to 423.13.

**Relax**

Tokyo shares soared, with the Nikkei 225-share index up 1,215.22 points, or 5.63 per cent, to 22,790.50. The gain was second only to the 2,037.32 point surge on October 21, as the market bounced back from the

mid-October crash.

Dealers said the government's announcement that it will probably relax accounting rules for special money and fund trusts eased fears that some financial institutions — the biggest investors in Tokyo — might have to sell huge amounts of stock to dress up their financial reports.

Hong Kong's Hang Seng index rose 59.80 points, or 2.5 per cent, to close at 2,463.02. Singapore shares rose 3.04 per cent and Australian stocks were up one percent.

The price of gold fixed at \$481.40 an ounce in London, up \$5.90.



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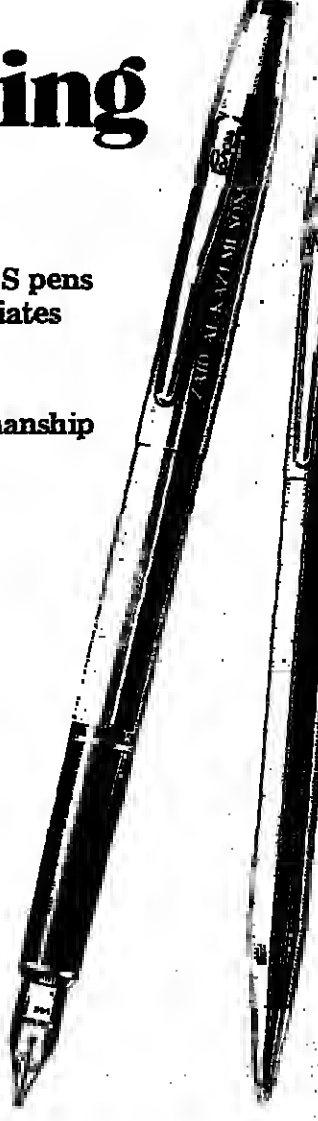
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## Dear Junior Readers,

I hope that many of you were able to see the performance Tuesday night of the Vienna Boys Choir at the Hilton Hotel.

I think that you will enjoy reading about the group and learning a few things about their lives in Vienna. You might find that you share similar hobbies with two of the choirboys, Michael and Steve.

The discipline they display in the perfection of their performance is a good example for all of us.

Aunt Barbara

## Firsts and lasts

It is a custom on the last day of each year in Germany to eat carp. By eating this fish you are supposed to bring luck to yourself. To be extra sure of good luck, some people put some of the scales of the fish into their pocket and keep them all year.

The first thing many people in Finland like to do after a hot sauna (a very hot and steamy room in which you sit to sweat) is to roll about in the snow!

The first trumpets were played in ancient Denmark almost 2,000 years before the birth of Christ.

Sardines have been packed very tightly right from the first time they were tinned, (hence the phrase 'squashed as sardines'). This is because the oil in which they are packed is twice as expensive as the sardines themselves.

A clue or 'clue' originally meant a ball of thread or rope which is why we now say we 'unravel' the clues of a mystery.

The last great Himalayan mountain to be climbed was one called Gosaithan, which is near Mount Everest. It was conquered by the Chinese in 1964, at 8848.1 metres of it.

The salt mine in Wieliczka, Poland is thought to be one of the first ever dug. It has been used for almost one thousand years and is still going strong.

## Impressive choirboys make the most of their time

SEEING the performance of the Vienna Boys Choir Tuesday night was a delightful entertainment experience. Being a teacher, I expected that I would be impressed with the talent and discipline required for the standard of musical achievement obvious on recordings I had heard of the group. What I had not anticipated was the sheer pleasure the boys appeared to have in sharing their talent with the audience.

Maybe you have sat through concerts where you felt somewhat tense or embarrassed because of the mistakes the performers made or almost made. However, from the very beginning of the Choir's programme, I felt relaxed by the confidence displayed by the singers and the beauty of their presentation.

In addition to numbers by Henry Purcell, Lodovico Viodana, Benjamin Britten, Franz Schubert and Peter Eben, the choir more than won their audience with songs from Strauss' "Tales from the Vienna Woods". After changing from their famous suits of black pants and white shirts with black collars to the attire of common villagers, male and female, it became obvious that not only could these



The Vienna Boys Choir, with Director Peter Marschik (seated). Steve is pictured in the front row seventh from the left and Michael is fifth from the left.

boys sing, they could also act. And although the boys ranged in age from only 10 years to 14 they displayed a stage presence of seasoned performers.

The Vienna Boys Choir is a total educational institute with an emphasis on music. Dr Walter Tautschnig, the institute's Director, who was also a choirboy, explained that the boys attend school seven months out of the year, are on tour three to four months and have a two month holiday. Some of you might think that attending school for only seven months sounds pretty great.

but the schedule they keep during that period of time is quite hectic.

Classes at the institute are small, with the maximum is any one form never exceeding more than ten pupils. The boys' daily schedule includes two hours of rehearsal in addition to their academic studies. Dr Tautschnig said that they also have three hours daily of free time when they can choose activities they enjoy such as swimming, computer work, watching videos or other things boys anywhere like to do.

The director, who

closely guarded the privacy and health of the boys allowed me to speak with a couple of them after their performance. I appreciated the fact that after the pleasure they had already given me in their singing, they were gracious in taking more of their time to answer questions for our Junior Readers.

Steve, a twelve-year-old from Vienna, said that he had been with the choir for three years. When I asked about his hobbies, he said, "I like swimming, playing pool and riding my bike," which he explained later was a sports bike. Steve

said that they practice everyday "except Sundays and then we sing for mass". When I asked about his family, Steve said, "I have one brother, and he doesn't like classical music at all."

After hearing Steve sing lead parts in several of the numbers, I thought that he couldn't possibly have interest in any other kind of music except classical. He assured me of his being a "normal", albeit gifted young boy, when he said that he enjoyed pop music, adding "I think Genesis is probably the best popular music group."

Michael, 13 years old, surprised me when I asked about his hobby by replying, "I like building electrical circuits in my free time." He said that he also swims and enjoys riding his sports bike. His favourite subject in school, he said is geometry. Michael has a brother who also loves classical music. Michael explained that although his brother did not sing with the choir, "he was a very good listener."

Michael and Steve confirmed the appearance they gave and said that they really enjoyed performing for people. They said that they do not get homesick on their tours and Dr Tautschnig explained that they are kept too busy to feel homesick. Whether they are thinking of home or not they are required to write one letter and one postcard a week to their families, the director said.

As the concert programme so aptly stated, the Vienna Boys Choir has "managed to combine the naivete of childhood with artistic maturity — something that can only be achieved through serious work and the up-holding of tradition." This is an important message for all of us in whatever we hope to achieve.

## Science corner

ALL seeds come from flowers. A flower is part of a plant. Some plants, such as tulips, have only one flower at the top of their stems. Other plants, such as bluebells, have more than one flower on each

stem. There are many different shapes and colours of flowers. Some are bright

yellow like dandelions and cowslips. Some are white like cow parsley and lily-of-the-valley.

Many large trees have small flowers. They are often green. The flowers of grasses are also green. The flowers of rye grass, meadow grass and cocksfoot are green.



## How...

How the leaves of the prickly pear are made.

The prickly pear grows wild in warm Mediterranean regions. It anchors itself to rocky, barren slopes and forms large areas of scrub that grow to about 3 metres high. On cultivated land the prickly pear is often cultivated as a hedge. It is enough to plant just one leaf for a whole bushy shrub to start growing.

'Leaf' is not really the correct word to describe the green, fleshy vegetation of this plant. The leaves are really parts of the plant's trunk which measure from 15 to 40 centimetres long and 15 centimetres wide.

The actual leaves of the prickly pear are very small and are shed almost as soon as they have appeared on the plant. They leave behind them thick tufts of thin needles. One of these needles grows outwards and becomes very sharp.

Since the prickly pear has no leaves the task of producing chlorophyll, without which no plant can live, is carried out by the trunk.

The prickly pear was introduced into Australia at the end of the eighteenth century as a food plant for cochineal insects. It spread and by 1870 had become a pest in Queensland and New South Wales. Its growth was controlled by the introduction of a little moth, the cactoblastis.

## The curse of the lost idol

ANNIE sneaked back to her cabin feeling very pleased with herself. She had narrowed down the list of suspects. Now another mystery began to bug her. She wanted to know what had become of the idol. Where was it?

The idol was much too big and bulky to slip into a

pocket. In fact it would be impossible to remove it from the chamber hidden anywhere—in a big, under a jacket, inside a shirt—without it showing. Unless....

Two photos caught her eye. They were both taken in the panic after the idol had vanished. Annie star-

ted hard at them. Something puzzled her. Something about the chamber was wrong, or different from the way she remembered it.

In a flash Annie knew exactly where the idol was. She must go and investigate IMMEDIATELY! Where is the idol?



The idol is still in the chamber. No one could have taken the idol out of the chamber as the photographs show that no one is holding or concealing it. In the suspicious conversation, the thief reveals that he does not have the idol on him.

The idol is buried in the sandy floor. Annie heard the thief doing this when the lights went out. So did Devilla de Visp.

## Top card prediction

## The illusion:

One of your spectators removes a deck of cards from its case, shuffles it, cuts it, and places it on the table. She now opens a sealed envelope and reads a prediction you wrote long before. It is the name of a card. She turns over the top card of the deck and there is the very same card!

## The preparation:

You have previously stolen a card from the deck and written its name on a piece of paper which you seal inside the envelope. Now place that card underneath the envelope with its back against the envelope, and even with the edge you are likely to grab (1). Put the envelope and card together out of sight.

## The trick:

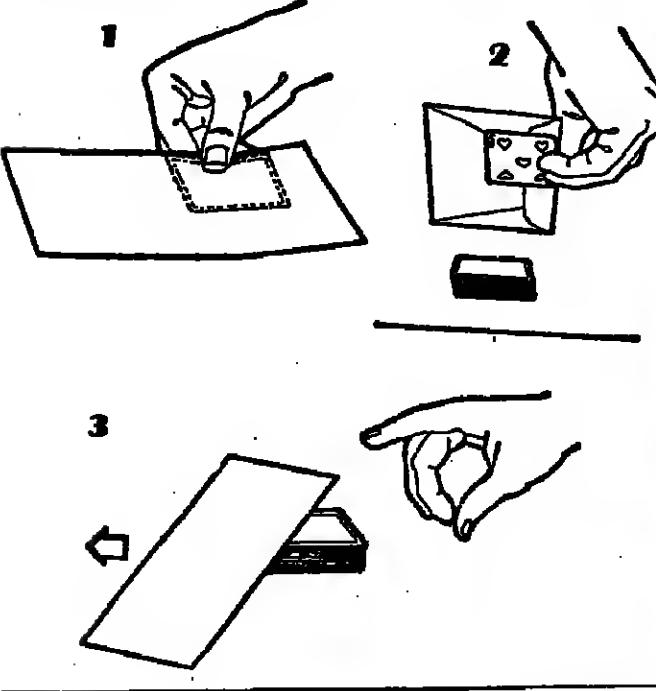
Casually toss the deck of cards onto the desk and ask your friend to shuffle the deck. When she's finished and has replaced the deck, nonchalantly bring out the envelope with the hidden card and drop them on the desk so your card becomes the top card of the pack (2). "In this envelope I have written a prediction." As a matter of fact, I wrote it three hours ago.

With your finger, flick the envelope sideways off the desk towards your spectator (3).

You shuffled the deck yourself and no one can possibly know any of the cards. Open the envelope and read what I

have written inside." When she has read the prediction out loud, for the benefit of any other people watching, have her turn over the top card of the deck.

That's impossible, but it works!



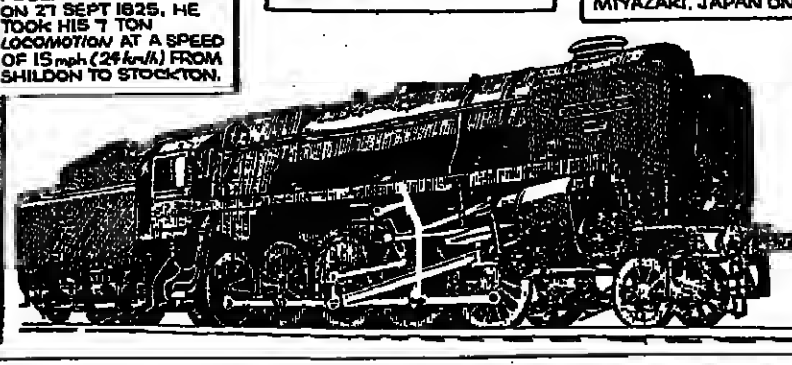
## Factfile FROM THE GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS



GEORGE STEPHENSON (1781-1849) WAS THE FIRST PERSON TO DRIVE A STEAM LOCOMOTIVE ON A PERMANENT PUBLIC RAILWAY WHEN, ON 27 SEPTEMBER, HE TOOK HIS T-101 LOCOMOTION AT A SPEED OF 15 mph (24 km/h) FROM SHILDON TO STOCKTON.

THE LAST MAIN-LINE STEAM LOCOMOTIVE TO BE BUILT IN BRITAIN WAS THE CLASS 9 (402.7 km/h) BY THE MABLEY (HAWTHORNE LEVITTSON) M-100 TEST TRAIN OVER THE 4.3 MILE (7 km) LONG JNR EXPERIMENTAL TRACK AT MARYAZAKI, JAPAN ON 6 FEB 1987.

THE WORLD'S FASTEST RAIL SPEED WITH PASSENGERS IS 249 mph (402.7 km/h) BY THE MABLEY (HAWTHORNE LEVITTSON) M-100 TEST TRAIN OVER THE 4.3 MILE (7 km) LONG JNR EXPERIMENTAL TRACK AT MARYAZAKI, JAPAN ON 6 FEB 1987.





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## ACCOMMODATION

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KUWAIT City, (near Meridian Hotel) Fahad Al Salem Street. One furnished room in a 2-bedroom flat for one Indian working lady to share with an Indian family. Tele. Suresh, 2415470. (AT4-40413-3)

SHARQ, (opp. the Dasman Complex building), one bedroom sitting room and kitchen with water and electricity for a small family or a working girl. Rent KD 80. 40 respectively. Tele. 2446182. (AT5-40448-2)

KUWAIT City, near Hilton, one room with water and electricity for two bachelors. Rent KD22 per head. Tele. Mr. Bilal 2404223, Mr. Saeed, 2403097. (AT6-40483-3)

KUWAIT City, Sharq. One independent room in a 2-bedroom flat for 2 or 3 Indian bachelors from 1st February. Tele. 2445561, 5-9 pm. (AT4-40432-3)

DASMA, Block 6, Street 60, House 25. Rooms for small families or working girls. Tele. Maqsood, 2408014, 8.30 am - 12.30 pm and 4-7.30 pm. (AT6-Y-TM-3)

KEIFAN, (opp. girls' college), Area 5, Street 56, House 8, 3 rooms with water and electricity for bachelors or family to share with an Indian family. Tele. 4845925. (AT5-40451-2)

DASMA, two rooms for small families. Tele. Mr. Bilal 2404223. (AT6-40482-3)

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### For Rent

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### FOR SALE

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#### Cars

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TOYOTA Cressida GL, 1985, fully automatic, metallic grey, 45000 kms, registered upto August 1988, in excellent condition. KD 1300 ono, plus KD 560, KD 40 monthly. Tele. 4337204, res. (AT5-40459-2)

PEUGEOT 304, 78 model, registered upto March 1988. Price negotiable. Tele. Albino, 4745745, 4738509. (AT5-40455-2)

PORSCHE 928 S late 1982, with all options, in excellent condition. Tele. 5635630. (AT5-40457-2)

SAAB 900 Turbo 1982, automatic, sunroof, Clarion stereo, maintained at Saab garage. KD 1400 ono. Tele. 2530000 ext 8008. (AT6-40480-3)

MAZDA 323 '83 model, metallic black with AC, stereo, radio cassette, electric sunroof. In very good condition. KD675. Tele. Graham Stewart, 3918631. (AT6-40480-3)

MITSUBISHI Colt GLX 1982, AC, manual, red, 73,000 kms, new tyres and battery, insured upto March '88, KD 400 ono. Tele. Michael 5385663. (Answerphone). (AT6-40474-3)

PLYMOUTH Volair, 1979 model. Overall in good condition. Tele. 2432045, 2434924. (AT1-MJ-3)

### Miscellaneous

SOFA set, dining room furniture, TV, video, fridge, washing machine, dryer, freezer, oven and other household items. Tele. Nimer, 2810025, after 3 pm. (AT4-40440-3)

CONTENTS of a two bedroom flat for sale. Owner leaving Kuwait. Tele. Dilip, 2423465, 9 am - 12.30 pm, 4-7 pm. (AT5-40464-3)

TWO bedroom flat with telephone, available in Farwaniya from 1st February. Freezer, television, washing machine, AC and furniture for sale. Tele. 4718542, 5387718, 2459035. (AT4-40446-3)

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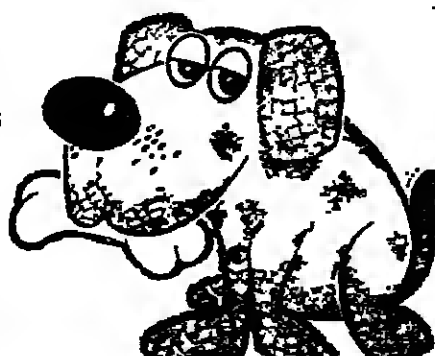
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MAID required immediately, for a small family, to live-in. Salary KD. 40. Tele. Maha, 5710823, 5-9 pm. (AT5-40469-3)

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## MISCELLANEOUS

MAID, Eliza, who applied for a job on 31.12.87. Please call again. Tele. 5313724. (AT4-40442-3)

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SPORTS

# Merle wins World Cup giant slalom

TIGNES, France, Jan 6. (AP) — Merle of France overcame a very strong competition to win the women's World Cup giant slalom edging out Maria Walliser of Switzerland by 0.66 seconds after both her runs here today.

Blanca Fernandez Ochoa of Spain took the third position while Catherine Quittet of France finished fourth.

Merle, who broke an ankle last year and just returned to racing last December, is a 23-year-old from Sauter. After a third on the first run, she had the second best time on the second run.

"Today's race was more difficult than yesterday," Merle said. "I couldn't see very well. I expected to come in third again."

Walliser, the two-time World Cup overall, was seventh in the morning then came back in the afternoon with the third-best clocking.

Fernandez Ochoa had only the 12th best time in the afternoon, also complaining about the weather, which was cold, cloudy and windy on a course that dropped 340 metres.

"The visibility wasn't too good on the top part. I wasn't very good on the flat section. Then I made some mistakes on the bottom and almost fell," Fernandez Ochoa said.

**Revival**  
The Spanish skier just edged out Quittet for third.

Quittet is the leader of the French skiing revival and took the lead in the giant slalom standing with 57 points, just a point ahead of Vreni Schneider of Switzerland.

Schneider, who won yesterday's race, came in fifth with a time of 2:28.90. Austrians Sigrid Wolf and Anita Wachter followed in sixth and seventh.

Wachter has the top time in the second heat after a 15th in the morning run.

Wachter and Fernandez Ochoa are tied for second in the overall season standings behind Fagni with 90 points.

The next race for the women is a super-G set for Saturday in Lech Am Arlbeg, Austria, a replacement for a race cancelled in Pfronten, West Germany.

# Scotland name squad for Five Nations

EDINBURGH, Jan 6. (Reuters) — Scotland have named one new cap, second-row forward Damian Cronin, and have surprisingly recalled Roger Baird on the left wing for the Five Nations Rugby Union match against Ireland in Dublin on January 16.

Baird, who has not scored a try in his previous 26 internationals, was preferred to Lindsay Renwick, scorer of two tries in the final Scottish trial, and Iwan Tukalo, who performed well in last year's World Cup.

Eight players survive from 30-3 defeat by New Zealand in the World Cup quarterfinals in Christchurch last June.

They include scrum-half Roy Laidlaw, now 34, who will be making his 44th appearance for Scotland — but not alongside his regular half-back partner John Rutherford.

**Injury**  
Rutherford is one of our experienced players — the others being Keith Robertson, Iain Milne and Douglas Wylie — who were not considered for the game because of injury.

Richard Cramb, who played for England's under-23 team before opting to represent the country of his birth, will take Rutherford's place at fly-half, winning his second cap. His previous appearance was in the 55-28 hammering of Romania in the World Cup after being summoned from a club tour of Australia to replace the injured Rutherford.

Gary Callander takes over as captain and Hooker from the recently-retired Colin Deans.

**Team:**  
Gavin Hastings, Matt Duncan, Alan Tait, Scott Hastings, Roger Baird, Richard Cramb, Roy Laidlaw, Iain Paxton, Finlay Calder, Derek White, Damian Cronin, John Jeffrey, David Sole, Gary Callander, Norrie Rowan.

# Zagreb edge past United

MANCHESTER, England, Jan 6. (AP) — Cibona Zagreb of Yugoslavia defeated Manchester United 99-93 last night in a European Korac Cup quarterfinals basketball match.

Dragan Petrovic, Cibona's international star, was his team's best performer with 25 points.

The Yugoslavs eliminated the financially ailing Manchester team from the competition.

United had to go into the match without both its Americans, Jim Dolan and Perry Bromwell, who were ineligible, and with naturalised Briton Alton Byrd not fully fit due to a pelvic injury.

# HAWKS OUTCLASS PISTONS

# Bullets snap losing streak



San Antonio's David Greenwood (right) goes for a rebound while Golden State's Rod Higgins looks on. (Reuter wirephoto)

NEW YORK, Jan 6. (AP) — Bernard King scored 15 of his 27 points in the fourth quarter and Moses Malone had 26 points as Washington snapped a five-game losing streak by defeating the New Jersey Nets 101-97 yesterday.

In other National Basketball Association games Phoenix downed New York 100-95; Chicago beat Indiana 93-77; Milwaukee iced the Los Angeles Clippers 98-82; Atlanta took an 81-71 victory over Detroit; Golden State won a 129-119 shootout with San Antonio and Portland nailed Seattle 126-114.

The Bullets' victory started new coach Wes Unseld off with a winning record. He replaced the fired Kevin Loughery.

Mike Grunski scored 23 points for New Jersey, which lost its 12th straight on the road this season. Otis Birdsong added 17.

**Suns 100, Knicks 95**  
Walter Davis scored seven of his 22 points in the final 3:38, including the go-ahead basket with 1:17 left, to lead the Phoenix Suns to a 100-95 victory over the New York Knicks. Sidney Green paced New York with 17 points and 18 rebounds, both season highs.

**Bulls 93, Pacers 77**  
Michael Jordan scored 31 points and Chicago's stifling defence turned back the poor-

shooting Indiana Pacers 93-77 to give the Bulls their second straight victory. Steve Stipanovich paced Indiana with 20 points.

**Bucks 98, Clippers 82**  
Terry Cummings scored 20 points and the Milwaukee Bucks held off a late rally to beat the Los Angeles Clippers 98-82. Mike Woodson had 19 points for the Clippers, who suffered their seventh straight loss.

**Hawks 81, Pistons 71**  
Cliff Livingston had 15 points and 14 rebounds and Atlanta held the Pistons to their lowest scoring total in Detroit's 31-year history as the Hawks posted an 81-71 victory. The Pistons scored only one in the final 5:17. Isaiah Thomas led Detroit with 18 points.

**Warriors 128, Spurs 119**  
Terry Teague came off the bench to score 28 points to help the Golden State Warriors post only their fifth victory of the season with a 129-119 triumph over the San Antonio Spurs. San Antonio's road record fell to 2-13 despite a 35-point performance by Alvin Robertson.

**Blazers 126, Sonics 114**  
Terry Porter scored a career-high 31 points, leading the Portland Trail Blazers to a 126-114 victory over the Seattle SuperSonics. Dale Ellis led the Sonics with 32 points.

# Baker set to win KNDC

By Gail Seery

THE 1987/88 Kart Club season continues at Ahmadi tomorrow, with the second round of the Ahmadi Challenge Cup (ACC), which can be expected to be a strongly contested competition.

The first round was the Enduro event on December 11, and was won by novice driver Eric Andrews. This was something of a surprise, as it was the first race at Ahmadi this season which was not won by last year's champion, Rob Baker.

**Consists**  
The karting season consists of two distinct challenges, the Kuwait National Drivers Championship (KNDC) and the ACC, as well as an International event, scheduled for February 25/26. The KNDC consists of seven rounds, and the ACC is raced over four rounds — both were won by Rob Baker last year.

There have been four KNDC races to date, and each was won convincingly by Rob Baker who now holds 36 points, and a comfortable lead. Next is Jeff Butt



Baker, defending champion

with 18 points. If Butt was to win all the remaining rounds, Baker could afford to finish in fourth place each time and still draw.

There have been four KNDC races to date, and each was won convincingly by Rob Baker who now holds 36 points, and a comfortable lead. Next is Jeff Butt

results are counted; Butt failed to get points from the second round, giving Baker an added advantage, as he would be able to drop a disappointing result.

If Baker continues on form and wins the next round of the KNDC to be held on January 22, he will certainly have won the championship title for the second year running.

In the ACC on the other hand, the result is by no means settled yet. As the points stand at present, Andrews leads Butt, with Baker back in an unaccustomed third place.

**Move**  
Although Jeff Pollitt finished the Enduro in second place, he is not racing in the rest of the ACC and the other drivers move up one place in the Challenge accordingly.

Racing starts at 1.30 pm at the KOC sponsored Ahmadi kart track, and spectators are welcome. For those who would like to become more actively involved with the club, events include the opportunity to try out a fun kart between heats.

# Calgary Games organisers worried over 'freak weather'

NEW YORK, Jan 6. (UPI) — The head of the local organisers for the Calgary Olympics said yesterday the possibility of extreme weather is his highest concern with the Games less than six weeks away.

Frank King, chairman of the Calgary organising committee, said "freak weather" — mild temperatures, extreme cold, high winds — worries him more than the prospect of no snow for downhill skiing events.

Unpredictable weather has been a frequent companion of the Winter Olympics. During the 1984 Sarajevo Games skiing was delayed five days because of blinding snow and fierce wind. Lack of snow caused concern leading to the 1980 Lake Placid Games.

Mild weather hit Calgary before Christmas but temperatures have since turned colder. Temperatures yesterday were near zero (-18°C).

The issue is sensitive for Calgary organisers because of last year's problems at Mount Allan, site of the Olympic downhill competition. A major ski race was postponed amid some of the warmest weather in years but was eventually staged with snow-making machinery.

"If we could do it last year, we'll be able to do it pretty good this year," King said.

King, speaking prior to the selection of two Americans for an international chorus at the Feb 13 opening ceremonies, points to the recent snowfall and the stockpiling of artificial snow since October.

"If we're not careful, we'll be up to our armpits in snow," he said.

He argued that because these Games will last five days longer than the ones in Sarajevo, more time remains "in reserve" should there be any postponements because of uncooperative weather.

King said Calgary is amply prepared for the arrival of some 2,600 athletes from 59 countries.



Vatanen poses in front of his Peugeot.

# 150 entries drop out after failing to meet deadline in Paris-Dakar Rally

BORDJ, ALGERIA, Jan 6. (Reuters) — One-quarter of the 602 cars, motorcycles and trucks which started the Paris-Dakar Rally have dropped out after just two days of competitive special stages, organisers said yesterday.

Five days after leaving France, 150 entries failed to reach this desert outpost in the Algerian Sahara to meet a deadline set by the organisers to prevent the competitors from splitting up.

Far from being disappointed, organisers are delighted that the 13,000-km course they have set this year is eliminating all but the best drivers and vehicles.

"We are proud of the first stage," a statement from the organisers said. "It was held in the true tradition of the Paris-Dakar."

The statement was issued in response to complaints from competitors that the first stage, from El Oued to Hassi Massoud, was too difficult. Organisers say

it was aimed at knocking out the weakest one-third of the entrants.

Yesterday's 287-km special stage saw no change at the top of the standings.

Last year's winner Ari Vatanen of Finland, in a Peugeot, retained first place overall, with Frenchman Pierre Lartigue second in his Mitsubishi and Patrick Zanardi third in a Range Rover.

Individual times were not recorded on the route to Bordj Omar Driss but penalties were imposed if competitors failed to complete the section within the three-hour limit.

Former Formula One driver Jacky Ickx of Belgium crashed spectacularly out of the race when he rolled his Lada during yesterday's stage and a compatriot, second-placed motorcycle rider Guy Huysen, broke both legs in an accident.

Today's 800-km special stage to Tamarasset was likely to see more mass retirements.

# Curtis takes first place

MELBOURNE, Jan 6. (Reuters) — David Curtis won a close-fought battle with fellow-American John Kosteci to take the first race in the World Soling Championship today.

Curtis, in Whip, crossed the line at the end of the 14.6 mile race nine seconds ahead of title favourite Kosteci's Limping Gypsy.

Australian Bobby Wilmoit in Square Gold was one minute 32 seconds behind in third place.

In southerly winds of 14 knots and on a slight swell, Curtis recovered from a bad start to take the lead after the first beat, a lead he never lost.

After two days of competition in both Perth and Adelaide the three-meet series winds up with a final two days in Canberra on Friday and Saturday.

# IAAF to ask Soviets to look into drug claim

LONDON, Jan 6. (Reuters) — The International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) will ask the Soviet Union to investigate a claim that a Soviet Olympic champion gave advice to British athletes on taking drugs, the federation said today.

"It is our duty to inform the Russian athletics federation of the claim and ask if there is any substance in it," IAAF secretary John Holt said.

British hammer thrower Martin Girvan claimed in a newspaper interview this week that Yuri Sedykh, the Olympic hammer champion in 1976 and 1980, gave details of his drug intake while on a lecture tour of Britain two years ago.

**Quantities**  
Girvan said in the interview in The Times that he heard Sedykh, the world record holder, detail what drugs he was taking, when, and in what quantities. "The worst of it was that Sedykh was not the only man in our country taking drugs," Girvan said.

Michael Gee, the IAAF officer in charge of doping issues, emphasised the federation did not have the authority to take action over the allegations but felt compelled to tell the Soviet Union about them.

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# Tyson signs to fight six times for \$26.5m

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J., Jan 6. (Reuters) — Undisputed heavyweight champion Mike Tyson will be paid \$26.5 million for defending his title six times in the next 12 months, co-manager Bill Cayton said yesterday.

Cayton said American cable television network Home Box Office (HBO) will put up the money for the fights, beginning with Tyson's defence on January 22 in Atlantic City against former heavyweight champion Larry Holmes.

**Tentative**  
Cayton emphasised that with the exception of the Holmes fight, all dates and opponents are tentative.

He said Tyson's second defence under the deal is tentatively set against fellow-American Tony Tubbs on March 21 in Tokyo.

The third bout is tentatively scheduled against Briton Frank Bruno in London on June 4 or 11th. A fourth defence is being considered against Francesco Damiani in Milan in early September.

The other two opponents in the series, dependent upon Tyson (31-0) remaining undefeated, have not been decided, Cayton said.

So far Tyson's fight plans do not include former champion Michael Spinks, who beat Holmes in 1986 to win the International Boxing Federation version of the heavyweight title. Spinks won again in a rematch, but vacated the title when he bolted an HBO unification series.



Boxing promoter Don King holds the arms of Tyson (right) and Holmes at a press conference last month. It was at this conference that Tyson refused to shake hands with Holmes.

long-standing feud with Spinks' promoter Butch Lewis.

"We are ready to fight Spinks if he comes to fight without Butch Lewis as promoter or co-promoter," Cayton said. "If Lewis is ready to vacate his ego, we are ready to work out a fight with Spinks in June. Bruno is not

firm," said Cayton.

Holmes, 48-2, was expected to appear at yesterday's conference, but the 38-year-old challenger stayed at his training camp in nearby Easton, Pennsylvania.

By telephone a Holmes spokesman read a statement from the

former champion.

"I am training very hard and working very hard. Any and all questions will be answered on January 22."

The Tyson camp saw Holmes' absence as part of his fight preparation.

Said Tyson: "Maybe he is trying to psyche me out. As long as he shows up on the 22nd, that is all that matters."

Kevin Rooney, Tyson's trainer, said: "In our camp we don't pay attention to any of that. He always brings up controversy. That is his way to motivating himself and unravel his opponent. That doesn't mean (anything) to us and he'll know that by January 22nd," said Rooney.

**Hurt**  
Added Tyson: "I'm not going to say anything like I am going to punish or hurt him, but I will say it will be an interesting night."

Holmes, 38, was upset when Tyson refused to shake hands with him at a news conference Dec 1 at New York.

"If he lets anything like that upset him, then I don't think he's as great a champion as he thought he was," Tyson said. "He said derogatory things about me, that I was a dirty fighter. Then he wanted to forget it."

**NOTICE**  
This is to notify that **Mr. Dave K. Churchman** is no longer employed by Kuwait Lube Oil Company as of 5th Jan., 88. The company will not be held responsible for any further transactions made by him from today.  
The company wishes **Mr. Churchman** good luck in his future career.



## SPORTS

ARAB TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, JANUARY 7-8, 1988

## Fifa fines and warns Iraqi team

ZURICH, Switzerland, Jan 6, (AP): The Iraq Soccer Association has been fined 20,000 Swiss francs (\$15,000) after its team tried to attack the referee of an Olympic qualifying match against Kuwait last month, the world soccer authority Fifa said today.

A Fifa committee also warned Iraq it will be barred from the Olympic preliminary tournament if similar events occur in the future.

After the end of the Dec 18 game, which host Kuwait won 2-1, security guards had to protect referee Nasaden Chandra of Singapore from physical attack by Iraqi team members, Fifa said.

## Submitted

An investigation is to determine those responsible for the incident and the case will then be submitted to Fifa's executive committee for possible further action.

Iraq is Kuwait's main rival in the final round of the West Asia qualifying group, whose winner qualifies for the Olympics later this year. Kuwait currently leads with six points in four games while Iraq has four points from four games. Saudi Arabia and Qatar, the other group members, have three points each.

## SPORTS BRIEFS

## Jahangir wins

ST. HELIER, Jersey, Jan 6, (Reuters): Results of quarterfinal matches in the Jersey International Squash Championship yesterday. Jahangir Khan (Pakistan) beat Geoff Williams (Britain) 9-2 9-5 9-1. Tristan Nancarrow (Australia) beat Phil Kenyon (Britain) 9-5 9-5 10-8. Ross Norman (New Zealand) beat Gwynn Briers (Britain) 10-9 9-9 9-5. Neil Harvey (Britain) beat Kelvin Smith (Australia) 9-7 9-14.

## Kenyan runner

SAN VITTORE OLONA, Italy, Jan 6, (AP): Kenyan runner Paul Kipkoech today celebrated his 26th birthday by winning the Five Mills cross-country race in this north Italian town, near Milan.

## Kifco Trophy

THE first semifinal for the Kifco Trophy will be played between Evergreen and Kifco cricket teams at the NC grounds tomorrow at 9 am.

## David Gower

LEICESTER, England, Jan 6, (Reuters): Former England cricket captain David Gower will lead Leicestershire again next season. Leicestershire announced that Gower, captain for three seasons up to 1986, would take over from Test all-rounder Peter Willey, who said last month he did not want to continue.

## 1988 Games

LAUSANNE, Switzerland, Jan 6, (KUNA): Poland, South Yemen and Zaire today confirmed that they would be taking part in the 1988 Olympic Games at Seoul, bringing the number of participating countries to 138, International Olympic Committee said.

## S. Korea triumph

DOHA, Jan 6, (Reuters): South Korea beat Egypt in a penalty shoot out today after the Asian and African soccer champions drew 1-1 (half-time 0-0) at the end of regular time.

## BRIDGE

RESULTS of the Sheraton Ladies Bridge Club game held yesterday:

1. Nabil Akel & Gilt Wade  
2. Margaret Maynard & Daphne El Saad  
3. Sheila & Midge

Results of the Sheraton Ladies Bridge Club game held on Dec 30:

1. Lolli Murtwhait & Doris Kimber  
2. Salwa Hayek & Ghada Sarraf  
3. Suzanne Cattermole & Donna Mat-teray

Results of the Sheraton Tuesday Bridge:

1. Adly Tiab & Magdi Mesdari  
2. Ignace Meouchi & Richard Blackwell  
3. Mr & Mrs Foad Farah and Ramzan Samaha & Marcel Zannari

Sheraton will hold the annual Ibrahim Qattan Marathon Cup tomorrow at 3.00 pm.

Hilton Bridge Club

The Hilton Bridge Club is re-starting its weekly games from Jan 17. The games will be held every Sunday at 3.00 pm.

## DOOHAN LOSES TO MOIR

## Shriver fights back to edge Gomer



Shriver: breathing easier after victory

SYDNEY, Jan 6, (Reuters): Number one seed Pam Shriver struggled to overcome her White City jinx before recovering from a set down to beat a rejuvenated Sara Gomer in the New South Wales Open tennis tournament today.

Shriver, in her first appearance since winning the Brisbane Grand Prix, lost the first set of the second round match 7-6. Her British opponent went to 3-1, 40-0 in the second with some dazzling cross court backhands.

## Blestering

But the American held her nerve, broke Gomer in the sixth and 12th games of the second set to take it 7-5 and then took the third 6-2 as Gomer capitulated in the blistering heat.

The men's number one seed, South Africa's Christo van Rensburg, also struggled early on against Australian Simon Youl in his second round match before winning 6-4 6-3.

Van Rensburg, 4-1 and two breaks of serve down in the first set, woke up and reeled off eight games on the trot to win with ease.

In another South Africa/Australia bout, fourth seed Peter Doohan never got into his match against South Africa's Barry Moir.

Doohan lost 7-5 6-4 while number five seed John Fitzgerald, another Australian, had

to save four second set match points before overcoming American Roger Smith 3-6 7-6 6-2.

Shriver admitted afterwards she had been lucky to reach the third round against an opponent who had never won a set off her before.

"I was really tired, both in my arm and mentally, after Brisbane but I should have known better than to go out so casually," said Shriver.

"I've got some interesting memories of that court out there. I've botched up some matches before, so it was good to get out of one," she said.

Shriver lost the 1980 New South Wales final despite having six match points against Australian Wendy Turnbull.

Czechoslovakia's Helena Sukova, second seed in the women's competition, and fifth seed Catarina Lindqvist of Sweden were the first to reach the quarterfinals with straight-set wins over Briton Jo Durie and Australian Anne Minter.

## Results

(Prefix denotes seeding, Australian unless stated):

Men's first round: Marc Flur (US) beat 2-Wally Masur 6-4 6-4, 5-John Fitzgerald beat Richard Schmidt (US) 3-6 7-5 6-3.

Men's second round — 1-Christo van Rensburg (South Africa) beat Simon Youl 6-4 6-3, Barry Moir (South Africa) beat 4-Peter

Doohan 7-5 6-4, 5-John Fitzgerald beat Roger Smith (US) 3-6 7-6 (7-2) 6-2, 6-Darren Cahill beat Andrew Castle (Britain) 7-6 (7-3) 6-3, Brad Drewett beat Marc Flur (US) 6-2 6-4, 7-Joe Rive (US) beat Andrei Olkhovski (Soviet Union) 6-2 6-7 (4-7) 7-6 (7-5), Alexander Volkov (Soviet Union) beat Massimo Narducci (Italy) 6-1 3-0 retired.

Women's second round — Maria Lindstrom beat 7-Liz Smylie 6-2 6-3, 1-Pam Shriver beat Sara Gomer (Britain) 6-7 (2-7) 7-5 6-2, Brenda Schultz (Netherlands) beat 4-Sylvia Hanika 6-4 6-4, 8-Etsuko Inoue (Japan) beat Betsy Nagelsen (US) 7-6 (7-5) 6-3, Jana Novotna (Czechoslovakia) beat Catherine Suire (France) 6-2 7-6 (7-3), Hester Witvoet (Netherlands) beat Roslyn Fairbank (US) 6-3 6-7 (7-9) 6-3, Patty Fendick (US) beat Julie Salmon (Britain) 6-2 6-0.

2-Helena Sukova (Czechoslovakia) beat Rachael McQuillan 7-5 6-2, 3-Claudia Kohde-Kilsch (West Germany) beat Sandra Wasserman (Belgium) 6-3 6-2, Anna Henricksson (US) beat Masako Yanagi (Japan) 7-5 4-6 6-4, 5-Catarina Lindqvist (Sweden) beat Janine Thompson 4-6 6-4 6-2.

Third round — 2-Helena Sukova (Czechoslovakia) beat Jo Durie (Britain) 6-3 6-3, 5-Catarina Lindqvist (Sweden) beat Anne Minter 6-3 7-6 (7-5).

## Nicholas signs for Aberdeen

LONDON, Jan 6, (Reuters): Charlie Nicholas ended a four-year spell with English League side Arsenal when he signed for Scotland's Aberdeen in a club record £500,000 (\$925,000) deal last night.

"It's good to be home," said the extrovert former Scottish international striker, dropped by the London First Division team early this season.

Aberdeen manager Ian Porterfield confirmed the transfer.

## Anti-apartheid protesters heckle Cash

ADELAIDE, Jan 6, (Reuters): Wimbledon champion Pat Cash was the target of anti-apartheid protesters outside the gates of Adelaide's Memorial Drive tennis courts today.

About 30 people from groups including the African National Congress/South West African People's Organisation (ANC/Swapo) Solidarity Committee and the Campaign Against Racial Exploitation (Care), demonstrated against the Australian's participation in the South African Open last November.

Care national convener Irene Gale said the groups were concerned about any South African players competing in Australia as well as players who had com-

peted in South Africa. "There should be an absolute boycott of trade and sport," she said. "Cash was made such a big fuss of by the media in South Africa because he was Wimbledon champion so by going there he gave their government very real support."

Cash is playing in the Adelaide tournament as a tune-up for the Australian Open which starts next week.

Cash won his opening match in the Adelaide tournament by beating South African-born American Johan Kriek 4-6 7-6 (7-5) 6-4.

Meanwhile Australian Open tennis champion Stefan Edberg is confident the new rebound ace surface laid for this year's tour-

nament will suit his game.

"The new surface should suit my game if I'm fit and play well. I think it will be alright for me," said Edberg today. The Australian Open begins on Monday.

Cash feels the surface should suit all players whether they be serve-volleyers or baseline operators.

## Better

"You can stay back if you want or you can come into the net and I think therefore it makes it better all round."

"On grass it tends to be more a big server's paradise and clay more the other way around, so this is in between," Cash told journalists before the start of the challenge tournament.

## Fiorentina stun Napoli in Italian Cup match

ROME, Jan 6, (Reuters): Holders Napoli suffered their second defeat in three days today when Fiorentina beat them 3-2 in a second-round, first-leg Italian Cup tie.

Fiorentina's away victory ended a record run of 20 consecutive wins for Napoli in domestic Cup competition. On Sunday, Napoli crashed 4-1 AC Milan to lose their unbeaten League record this season.

Diego Maradona put Napoli ahead from the penalty spot in the 18th minute and Brazilian Careca scored after 57 minutes. Fiorentina's marksmen were Stefano Carobbi, Roberto Onorati and Argentine Ramon

## Angel Diaz

The return leg on January 20 will decide which team wins a place in the quarterfinals.

AC Milan, second in the League, were surprisingly beaten 1-0 at home by Ascoli, while Roma lost 2-1 away to bottom of the table Empoli.

Welsh international Ian Rush scored the only goal in Juventus' win over Pescara.

## Results

Verona	1	Torino	0
Juventus	1	Pescara	0
Bologna	1	Inter	0
Farma	0	Avellino	3
Napoli	2	Fiorentina	3
A.C. Milan	0	Ascoli	1
Empoli	2	Roma	1
Pisa	2	Sampdoria	1

## Jarvis fit for England tour

LONDON, Jan 6, (Reuters): Uncapped fast bowler Paul Jarvis has proved his fitness for England's forthcoming tour of New Zealand and Australia.

The Yorkshire paceman, who returned early from the recent troubled tour of Pakistan with a badly-infected right hand, pronounced himself fit after practice sessions at the indoor nets at his country's Headingley headquarters yesterday and today.

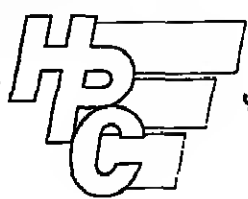
Said Jarvis: "The Pakistan trip was a bad experience for me when I was looking to establish myself in the England side."

England leave on January 13 for a tour that includes three Tests in New Zealand and one Test in Australia.



HPC, in keeping with its tradition of bringing the most up-to-date and innovative products and services, is proud to announce the arrival of Mr Julian Reap. A professional designer from the UK, specialising in car conversions, Mr Reap arrived recently and is the newest addition to the HPC team. Focusing his expertise on the automobile industry he has produced several one-of-a-kind body kits and is currently making waves with his colour-coded gauges. Mr Reap will be available from Jan 9, at the HPC location in Al Rai. Appointments are now being taken for private consultation on 4738456.

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50 WATCHES

102885	96083	103542	93128	91686
93138	98178	105597	94392	91942
105940	97635	98860	102297	104774
101716	104074	102531	100054	90360
98152	90100	93337	94801	92183
101183	99951	96053	93123	93943
98722	104555	98416	95534	103049
97609	90786	101163	105384	104509
92021	91206	93748	105409	99134
90319	102573	104645	105103	96203

100 MELAMINE SETS

95835	105771	93612	96709	96553
97391	106119	99771	98341	98678
100875	90532	95978	102958	101023
100684	103882	94218	94217	94266
92963	91534	101714	92969	97952
90624	101012	101064	99547	101146
104403	98481	99787	90912	101148
98251	90452	93154	90858	100420
101184	90647	90861	95034	91406
95033	106246	100809	92899	92483
98161	93717	93432	100510	95641
98220	91725	92387	90862	104526
96060	103223	100539	93532	95567
105727	92170	97440	96542	104481
105896	91961	97032	96027	104295
106082	105151	100286	103234	98139
99985	97346	103137	98598	99528
91680	98146	105956	104765	100418
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